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A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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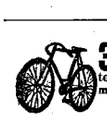

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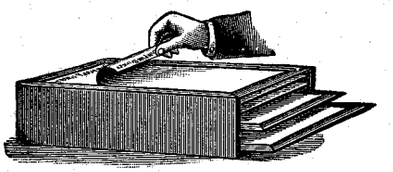

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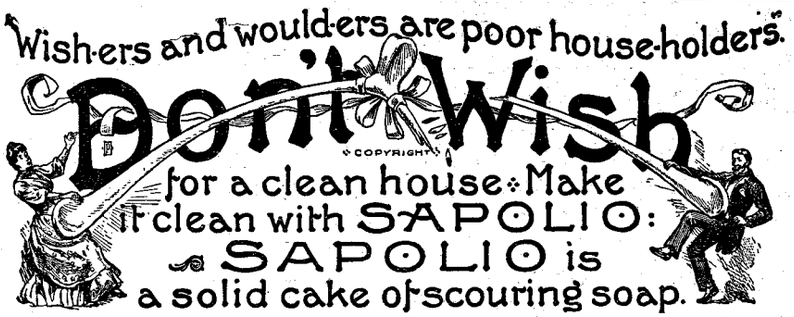

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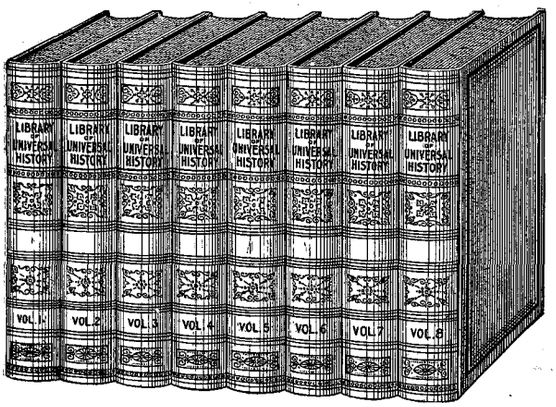

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The Literary Digest

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

IS THERE A NEWSPAPER TRUST?

EVER since the collapse of the United Press, the chief rival to the Associated Press as an organization for news-gathering in the United States, the principal papers which did not become members of the Associated Press have insisted that the latter is nothing less than a trust of the very strongest type. Several suits involving its rights and practises in news service have come before the courts. A petition from the Chicago *Inter Ocean*, asking for an injunction from the United States Court to restrain the Associated Press from discontinuing its news service to that paper, or expelling it from membership because *The Inter Ocean* bought news from another organization, has brought to light some informing discussion of modern methods in the news business.

The by-law of the Associated Press alleged to have been disregarded by *The Inter Ocean* reads:

"The board of directors shall have the power by a two-thirds vote of the whole board to suspend a member or impose upon him a fine not exceeding $1,000 for furnishing news to any person or association antagonistic or in opposition to the Associated Press; or for purchasing news from any person or organization formally declared by the board of directors or by the stockholders of the association at any annual or special meeting to be in such antagonism or opposition, or for any other violation of the by-laws or his contract.

"Provided, always, that ten days' notice in writing of a complaint be first served upon the offending member, and said member shall have an opportunity to be heard in his own defense, and if said member shows that the offense was unintentional, and shall have discontinued the same, he shall not be suspended or fined."

The New York *Sun* gives the following account of the petition for an injunction:

"The bill sets forth at length particulars regarding the constitution of the Associated Press and its relations to the newspapers composing its membership. It is organized under the Illinois laws, and its purposes are to 'buy, gather, and accumulate information and news; to purchase, erect, lease, operate, and sell telegraph and telephone lines and other means of transmitting news; to publish periodicals; to make and deal in periodicals and other goods, wares, and merchandise.'

"*The Inter Ocean* alleges that the Associated Press has violated its public obligations under its charter, which provides that it shall sell, supply, and distribute news generally to all persons who will pay the price or tolls fixed, by selling its news exclusively to its members, who are thus enabled to control the gathering, distribution, and publication of news, and thus create a monopoly or trust in the business. In pursuance of this unlawful scheme the defendant enacted and adopted certain by-laws, among which is one prohibiting is members from furnishing its special or other news to any person, firm, or corporation which it shall have declared antagonistic to the association, or from receiving news from such person, firm, or corporation; further, that members must not furnish news to any other person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of collecting or transmitting news, except with the written consent of the board of directors. Penalties for violation of this by-law may be suspension or fine not exceeding $1,000.

"The bill alleges that 'there exists a certain corporation known as *The Sun* Printing and Publishing Association, organized under the New York laws, which sells, buys, distributes, and publishes news; that the company is the principal competitor of the Associated Press, and that the Associated Press compelled several of its members to cease buying *The Sun's* special news service; that it wickedly and unlawfully, intending to control the news-gathering and selling business, declared *The Sun* Printing and Publishing Association antagonistic to the Associated Press, and prohibited members from buying from or selling news to the rival under penalty of expulsion.

"A list of newspapers that have been forced to cut off *The Sun's* special service is given as examples of the Associated Press's mendacity. It then alleges that on complaint of H. H. Kohlsaat, proprietor of the Chicago *Times-Herald*, notice was served on *The Inter Ocean* Company that it must discontinue taking *The Sun's* special service, which it began receiving in December, 1897. No attention was paid to the notice, and *The Inter Ocean* Company was cited to appear before the Associated Press directory and show cause why it should not be disciplined. It fears that steps will be taken to expel it from membership in the association or that a heavy fine will be unjustly assessed against it, and asks for an injunction to prevent such discipline as the directors of the organization may decide upon inflicting."

United States circuit courts have refused an injunction to the Minneapolis *Tribune* which sought to prevent the Minneapolis *Times* from receiving Associated Press service, and have also practically cut off *The Tribune* from damage suits. In Kentucky an act to regulate foreign corporations has passed one branch of the legislature, providing that the Associated Press shall be required to sell its news to any person or corporation operating a newspaper in the State not a member of such association, on the same terms and at the same price as a member of such association, on penalty of $1,000.

The Fourth Estate, a New York paper for newspaper men, discusses the situation under the caption "News and Interstate Commerce Laws," as follows:

"The value of a news franchise is to-day hypothetical, there being several trials where papers seek to force the Associated Press to give its service to them, tho they are not of the organization. Anxious to join, they are prohibited by contract obligations of the Associated Press.

"There are those, and not a few, who insist that the old value of a news franchise, which has been deemed a large asset in the capitalization of newspapers, is scarcely worth the paper upon which it is written, 'Class A and Class B' contracts being equally

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worthless. This may or may not be true. It remains for the courts to decide.

"Those believing in the value of news franchises and still counting them among their assets, insist that there can be nothing illegal in the combination, or rather confederation, of newspapers, the exchange of news, and the mutual principle back of the Associated Press.

"It is their assertion that the attempts to force the Associated Press to give the news to any one asking for it, and promising to pay for it, is rank socialism, the sort of anarchy which can not understand the difference between mine and thine, and has for its motto *tuum est meum*.

"The Associated Press was built up by energetic men, combined to help one another, and having triumphed over the late lamented United Press, a stock organization founded in the belief that its success would make its progenitors fabulously rich, the mutual organization now finds itself placed in the position of its defeated rival. Its combination of interests is attacked as monopolistic and contrary to the laws as interpreted in regard to interstate commerce.

"In fact, the old war of the press associations is renewed, but upon entirely different lines. Having conquered, certain members of the victorious army demand the slaughter of the beaten. They will not permit the organization to accept any flag of truce and have forced it into an awkward fight with legal interpretations of the laws against trusts. Naturally the newspapers that were not allowed to surrender rejoice and believe that they have a good cause.

"Justice Brewer of the Supreme Court of the United States, presiding in the case of the Indianapolis *Tribune*, in which that paper claims an exclusive right to the service of the Associated Press, recently interrupted counsel in their argument, and said:

"'Will a court of equity, even if both parties consent, enforce a contract which manifestly creates a monopoly?'

"It is the idea of monopoly that is being urged in the suits against the Associated Press to compel that organization to give news to any paper capable of paying for it. The decisions in the several suits will be awaited with the greatest interests as they involve the value of news franchises. From the standpoint of the Associated Press it seems to us that it would be vastly benefited by decisions against it compelling it to admit every paper that can pay for a franchise.

"This would mean increased revenues, the extension of the news service, and the elimination of the difficulties due to those who are too persistent in asserting that their rights will be transgressed by the admission of rivals.

"The Associated Press is really a mutual concern and not a monopoly. We may be wrong, but it seems to us that if it must serve every would-be customer there will be no further danger of the springing up of a rival organization.

"The fear that an adverse decision would result in the springing up of a great number of newspapers is not warranted by the history of the fight between the United and the Associated Press organizations. Only a few papers were established, and when there was no field for them, they failed. The survivors are few and far between."

POLITICS IN THE GOVERNMENT'S SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS.

THE Government of the United States has achieved an enviable reputation among scientific men of all nations for the excellence of the work done in its scientific departments and for the character of the men that have been put in charge of them. But once in a while an appointment is made, for political reasons, that does not come up to the standard, and if we are to believe the scientific journals, several appointments of this nature have been made of late. Since the President has nominated G. M. Bowers, of West Virginia, for United States Fish Commissioner a number of daily newspapers have joined in declaring that political appointments are fatal to good work. We quote below from a very outspoken article in *Science* (January 28), entitled "Logarithms, on the 'Spoils System.'" The article, which is printed conspicuously as a "leader," begins thus:

"While the President of the United States is considering whether he will follow the advice of the naturalists of the country and appoint as fish commissioner a really competent man, or accept the recommendation of one of his political friends and select a man who, in the opinion of that friend, knows nothing of the duties of the position, but will 'catch on' if he is given a little time, a good many other people are examining, with no small degree of astonishment, a recent example of the results of managing one of the scientific bureaus of the Government on the spoils system.

"This bureau has just issued its annual report, a large quarto volume, and of its 720 pages 325—nearly one half—are given to the publication of a ten-place table of logarithms! If there never had been a ten-place logarithmic table before this there might be a shadow of an excuse for its publication by the Government; but when such tables have been available for more than a hundred years, and can be bought almost anywhere for a small sum, it is difficult to imagine a reason for the printing of this one. Just what it has cost the Government from first to last can not very well be estimated, but it has been put at not less than $20,000 by a widely known newspaper.

"In the bureau from which it comes perhaps two or three copies of such a table might be used, but anybody who knows anything about the subject knows that useful tables of logarithms include from four to seven places. The number of problems in which a table of more than seven places would be used is extremely small, and all extensions of figures over what are actually used are a nuisance and a real hindrance. That the United States Government should suddenly print for free distribution several thousands of copies of this compilation must create, among those who understand, a strong suspicion of a dearth of other printable material.

"A little examination of the introductory pages of this extraordinary work will intensify the wonder which its appearance produces. Some space is devoted to the consideration of the elements of trigonometry, assuming that young people who are ignorant of that subject will take to ten-place logarithms from the start.

"Mathematicians will be interested and amused by this elementary work, which would properly astonish a high-school pupil of the present day."

After more criticism of this sort the writer notes that the ten-place tables of Vega, published first in 1794, were completely revised in 1889 and can be obtained cheap, so that the government work would have been entirely wasted, even if it had possessed great excellence. The writer concludes:

"It is but just to the many able and distinguished scientific men serving in the bureau from which this publication comes to say that it was prepared by their chief, published under his name and by his order. They have had nothing to do with it, except, doubtless, to reduce, as far as possible, those errors which yield to ordinary 'proofreading.' Nor must the author be blamed severely, as he is rather deserving of pity. For this costly and worse than absolutely useless production the country is indebted to the 'spoils theory' in politics, and it represents but a minute fraction of what that theory has cost in government scientific work alone. We have good reason to hope that the present Administration will avoid the mistakes that must follow in the wake of politics applied to the great scientific bureaus of the Government."

But it is not alone the departments that are subject to political appointments that are under fire. The Naval Observatory, which is managed by officers of the United States navy, is attacked in *The Evening Post*, January 19, which finds fault because its recently published annual report seems to be largely a record of trivialities. It asks sarcastically:

"Is it the Secretary of the Navy or is it an astronomer who will want to know, a year after the event, that on September 3, 1896, the 'finder' of one of the telescopes was supplied with a new leather cap? The most elaborate passage in the whole report is devoted to an account of difficulties encountered in raising an 'elevating floor' by steam-pumps and the happy result of substituting water as the motive power. . . . . .

"If the importance of a subordinate is to be measured by the number of times he is mentioned by name, the most important

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man in the place must be a Mr. Kahler, whose office is not stated, but who appears to be a mechanician. This gentleman's work is reported with truly astronomical precision as to dates. On September 3, 1896, the disk of a micrometer head was found bent; he straightened it out the next day. September 8 he supplied the clamp for the draw-tube of a finder. January 19, 1897, he finished grinding a lens. February 18 he cleaned, oiled, and repaired the machinery of the dial of one of the telescopes, and so on."

The Post notes that it will cost $115,000 to run the observatory for the ensuing year. It then goes on to say:

"The report of the establishment should certainly give the public such information as will justify this expenditure. We should like to know what important researches are being carried on, what improvements are being made in the observations, and what results of value are likely to accrue to astronomical science. But we have been unable to find, either in the reports or elsewhere, anything to gratify this curiosity. Besides trivialities like those we have already mentioned, the astronomical report gives mostly a highly technical statistical statement of the number of observations made with four of the instruments, and of the progress of the calculations connected with them. . . . . .

"What was the observatory built for? What do the scientific men of the country and of the world think of its work? What credit does it do the officers of the navy concerned in its management? What relation has its work to the wants of the naval or any other branch of the public service? What measures are taken by the Navy Department to insure its scientific output being of real value? We are unable to find an answer to these questions in any official publication."

Of the appointment of the Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries *The Post* says:

"A provision of the Revised Statutes calls for the appointment as Fish Commissioner of 'a person of scientific and practical acquaintance with fish and fisheries,' the object being to insure the selection of fit successors to Professor Baird and Professor Goode. Instead of picking out such a man, Mr. McKinley has nominated, upon the demand of Steve Elkins, a politician who never paid any attention to fish or fisheries, until he decided, a few months ago, that he wanted the $5,000 salary attached to this commissionership, and for whom the most that can be said by his friends is that he 'is a smart man and catches on soon.'

"It is difficult to speak with patience of so disgraceful a performance as this. The scientific bureaus of the Government have hitherto been kept upon a good basis, because the politicians themselves generally recognized the necessity of having them manned by experts. Out of abundant caution, Professor Goode secured the passage of the law which requires that the Fish Commissioner shall be 'a person of scientific and practical acquaintance with fish and fisheries.' This statute furnished the President perfect protection against any demand of the spoilsmen for the place. When Elkins asked it for his man, all that Mr. McKinley needed to do was to cite the law. Instead of taking defense in this position, the President himself becomes the leader in breaking it down, and serves notice that there is no law, moral or statutory, which need be any obstacle to him or to a Senator who insists upon an office for a henchman."

The Philadelphia *Ledger* says in part:

"The President has finally nominated George M. Bowers, of West Virginia, as United States Fish Commissioner. By this act he has ignored the protests of fish culturists and scientific men in all parts of the country, and disregarded the valuable services rendered by Commander John J. Brice, who has filled the place since the death of Col. Marshall McDonald, two years ago. . . . From all accounts, at present he has absolutely no qualifications for the post such as are specifically called for under the law. If this be true the United States Senators can not properly confirm him, and it is difficult to understand how he can legally hold the place.

"It is stated that Commander Brice has requested his friends not to make any objections to the confirmation of Mr. Bowers. Under ordinary circumstances the expression of such a wish should carry with it compliance, but under the present conditions it is the duty of the friends of Mr. Brice, as well as of all who are interested in fish culture, to disregard his request and oppose the confirmation to the end. There is much more involved in the matter than the mere appointment of Mr. Bowers or the removal of Mr. Brice, for it directly affects the future usefulness of the national fish-cultural work.

"There is hardly any doubt that Senator Elkins pushed Mr. Bowers for the United States Fish Commissionership for purely political reasons, in which practical or scientific knowledge of fish culture was not considered. Hitherto politics has been kept out of this very important department of the Government. The Fish Commissionership has been practically a life position, and held only by those who by their training or knowledge reflected honor and credit on the country. The removal of Commissioner Brice, who has made an exceptional record as a fish-culturist during his incumbency, for a man not qualified, as Mr. Bowers is said to be, is a radical departure from this excellent custom, and is to be looked upon as a public misfortune and opposed.

"The right of President McKinley to remove Commissioner Brice and appoint another person is unquestioned; but he deals a strong blow to the cause of fish culture and brings discredit on his Administration by nominating a man who is not at least equal in ability and experience to the present incumbent."

JOHN J. McKENNA, OF CALIFORNIA,
Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

JOHN W. GRIGGS, OF NEW JERSEY,
Attorney-General of the United States.

GEO. E. ROBERTS, OF IOWA,
Secretary of the Mint.

C. H. DUELL, OF NEW YORK,
Commissioner of Patents.

FOUR PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES.

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DEFEAT OF THE TELLER RESOLUTION.

THE Teller resolution, adopted by the Senate (see THE LITERARY DIGEST last week), but summarily rejected by the House of Representatives, continues to be the chief topic of discussion in national politics. The vote against the resolution in the House was 182 to 132, a majority of 50. Party lines were strictly drawn on the measure. Republicans, with the exception of two North Carolina members, voted for it, and, with the exception of two Democrats, one from Pennsylvania and one from South Carolina, the full Democratic and Populist strength was cast in favor of it. Debate, under a special rule adopted by the House, was limited to five hours. Editorials from the West, Middle West, and South may be considered specially significant.

National Democrats and the Issue.—"It is perfectly clear that, this year at least, we shall have to reargue and redecide the case which we had a right to assume was finally decided in November, 1896. But the silver men probably did not realize how promptly their adversaries would accept the issue. Many men now, for the first time, see clearly that the issue is sharp between the gold and the silver standard. In this struggle, which is sure to come, the chances are that we shall hear little or nothing of international bimetalism—which, by the way, never was anything more than an idle dream. . . . All we have a right to ask of the party in power is that it shall make an honest and determined fight for the gold standard. If it fails, the failure will be due to circumstances beyond the control of the Administration.

"There is another thing that the National Democrats should keep in mind. Out of three National Democrats in the Senate two of them, Lindsay of Kentucky, and Gray of Delaware, voted for the Teller resolution. These men also voted against the gold standard, to which the National Democratic Party is committed. And they also voted against the maintenance of the gold standard until an international agreement can be secured. It seems to us, therefore, that so long as the National Democratic Senators, with the honorable exception of Mr. Caffery, are among the obstacles in the path of the Republican Party in its reform work, criticism of the Republicans from National Democrats should not be too severe. The National Democratic Party believes in the gold standard, and yet of the twenty-four Senators who went on record as friends of the gold standard twenty-three were Republicans. The question in the next campaign ought to be not whether a man is a Republican or a Democrat, but whether he is for free silver and a depreciated currency or for the gold standard and honest money."—*The News* (*Nat. Dem.*), *Indianapolis.*

Democrats Getting Together.—"The Senators who have disagreed with the declaration of the party have set all Democrats an example they will follow. As for Senator Caffery, and those who follow him in continued antagonism to the policy of the party, there is no place for them except in the bosom of the Republican Party. The sooner they go to their own place and quit masquerading as Democrats, the better it will be for them and the country.

"The Teller resolution draws a clear dividing line that will be the line of cleavage in the congressional election of 1898 and the Presidential election of 1900. All who desire to pay an honest debt in honest money in the exact terms of the contract will range themselves behind Teller and Daniel and Vest. Those who desire to burden the people with unjust taxation to pay the bondholders twice as much as is due them will fall in line behind Hanna and Platt and Quay. The division is clear and sharp."—*The News and Observer* (*Dem.*), *Raleigh, N. C.*

The President Not an Extremist.—"The Eastern press has been bringing a steady pressure upon the President to induce him to abandon all reference to future possibilities of an international bimetallic arrangement. They have charged that the expressions attributed to him by Senators Chandler and Wolcott were not consistent with those with which he has been credited by extreme advocates of the single-gold standard, and it was said that his speech delivered at the banquet of the Manufacturers' Association on Thursday was intended to settle the matter. If this was its purpose we fear that it was not accomplished. Not because the President was inconsistent or ambiguous, but because he occupies a middle ground which the extremists on both sides refuse to consider. . . . There may be honest differences of opinion regarding the methods to be employed in bringing about this latter result, but no reasonable person understanding the monetary question involved will assert that Mr. McKinley occupies an inconsistent position. Only those already referred to as incapable of recognizing the fact that there is such a thing as bimetalism, and that a country with a currency composed exclusively of gold or of silver, when the commercial ratio diverges widely, is not on a bimetallic basis, will find fault with his views or his mode of expressing them."—*The Chronicle* (*Rep.*), *San Francisco.*

Playing into Republican Hands.—"What the gold party, or rather the party that has to think itself the gold party, can do when roused the silverites had cause to learn last fall. There was no occasion at the present time to play into Republican hands by 'putting them on record.'

"Another year of the quiet but aggressive campaign of education would have made it impossible to throw the solid Republican strength of the House to gold. There are too many Republican statesmen on the fence for that. But the Teller resolution has pulled the old party together in solid phalanx as far as one House of Congress is concerned. Even the 'bimetalist' President is with them now, whereas a fortnight ago Mr. Teller himself was boasting that Mr. McKinley would be found on the right side when the time came. After the New York speech instigated by the vote in the Senate, we do not see how the President can now be found anywhere but by the side of Mr. Gage. They are all 'on record' now, and if Mr. Teller can derive any comfort from the record, he must have something up his sleeve that others know not of. Henceforth proselyting for silver among the Republicans will be tenfold more difficult than ever. The Republican-Party whip, when well applied, has always been a powerful persuader."—*The News* (*Ind.*), *Detroit.*

Excuse for Inaction.—"It can not honestly be said that the silver men laid a trap for the wobbly-kneed Republican politicians. It looks too much like a pooling of interests to warrant the thought that Republicans have been tricked. Each side flatters itself that the situation which results is to its advantage. The one looks to a straddle for salvation, and the other evidently sees the advantage of being in a position to claim that the Republicans are free silverites at heart, or they would have fought hard to obtain reform and dispose of the question. It doubtless is not true that a considerable number of Republicans in Congress favor free silver, but their desire to hold offices is evidently stronger than any inclination they may have to let the country know exactly where they stand. As evidence of this, consider the vote in the Senate, in which body not more than one or two majority could be had for an avowed free-coinage bill. The Mathews resolution was passed by a vote of 47 to 32, Senators Allison and Fairbanks not daring to vote at all. The House turned down the resolution in short order, but this does not alter the situation. The excuse for inaction 'until after election' has been made."—*The Tribune* (*Dem.*), *Sioux City, Iowa.*

Why Revive the Issue?—"Did the currency-reformers imagine that they could put through a scheme of reform without encountering the opposition of those persons holding views at variance with those held by themselves? The gold-standard advocates are not the whole people—it is not even certain that they are half of them.

"In the preparation of the various schemes of currency reform which have been submitted to Congress by the gold-standard advocates the opposition has not even been consulted. It is easy for a body of men all of one mind to agree on any measure. When the Indianapolis monetary convention assembled it was composed of men of one mind on the main point to be acted upon and differing only as regards methods. There was no opposition. The House committee on banking and currency refused to hear the other side. If the gold men hoped to suppress the opposition by such methods they mistook the temper of the people as has been made evident by the Senate's action in passing the Teller resolution.

"That the currency question, with all the uncertainty regarding the future of business which its discussion entails, is to be fought all over again during the approaching campaign does not admit of a doubt. That the President is responsible for this state of things is apparent. If the silver issue was dead as has been so often asserted why was it resurrected by those who claim the

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honor of killing it? Maintenance of the then existing gold standard until international bimetalism could be established was what the St. Louis platform declared for. It said nothing about retiring the greenbacks or redeeming silver dollars in gold."—*The Journal (Ind.), Topeka, Kans.*

Bimetalists Need Encouragement.—"The bimetalists in Congress need all encouragement these days. There will be a concentrated effort to force 'currency-reform' legislation through, under the fear that the next Congress will be more difficult to handle than the present one, and that the condition of the country when Congress meets next December may not be altogether rosy. The Teller resolution was intended as a brake on this purpose; the speech of the President was hoped to have its effect on the vote that was to take place the succeeding day, but, fortunately, it was a boomerang and served to put the silver men on their mettle and to chill all but the most rabid of the goldbugs. The *ménu* cards, done in silver and gold, were a little transparent, following, as they did, the $100-a-plate banquet given by monopolies to the new Attorney-General. If no public meetings can be called, silver men can help by writing letters of congratulation to the faithful ones in Congress, and asking them to stand firm. They are making such a fight now as the hill tribes in the passes of the mountains in northwestern India are making against the disciplined army that is trying to enslave them. It is the same kind of a fight, and the 'hill tribes' should be encouraged."—*The Tribune (Ind.), Salt Lake City.*

"A Fading Issue."—"To the President's prompt and ringing declaration in behalf of the dollar of full value throughout the world has been added a knowledge of the precarious hold of free coinage upon the Senate. The House has spoken without a day's delay. Its verdict has never been in doubt. The position of the President is fully and firmly approved by the popular branch of Congress. A distinct victory for sound money is the outcome of the Teller tests. The resolution of twenty years ago that was revived by the silver leaders, with a record at that time of a two-thirds majority in both Houses of Congress, has now but a feeble hold upon one branch. The President and the House are for the 100-cent dollar, and a change of three votes would put the Senate in line. In looking over the field Mr. Teller is politician enough to recognize the fact that the trial of strength he courted has been disastrous to his side. The foreign markets reflect his defeat. The count of hands is against him. He must realize that his cause is drifting hopelessly away, a fading issue with the American people who have rejected it forever."—*The Globe-Democrat (Rep.), St. Louis.*

Challenge Accepted.—"Two years and a half before the national conventions meet give time for a good many things to happen. The grip of the silver leaders on the Senate may be broken at the legislative elections this fall. The widening and deepening of the tide of prosperity will bring larger opportunity for labor, and the vote cast for Bryan in 1896 will shrink proportionately. The silver propaganda only gathered strength because the propagandists profited by the depression following the crisis of 1893, and worked the 'calamity' trick to the best of their ability. Since 1896 the folly of the silver prophets has been shown in the great change for the better, and the country is ready to meet the issue again, reaffirm the honesty of the nation as in 1896, and declare to the world that the vast majority of Americans stand for the maintenance of the gold standard and for paying all the obligations of the Government in gold or its equivalent. The challenge of the silver leaders is accepted. They will be brought to grief."—*The Journal (Rep.), Minneapolis.*

McKinley's Lone Hand.—"The true goldbug does not believe in the possibility of bimetalism with or without international agreement. Of all men, the President ought to take a positive stand on this question, which must be settled before any other question can be disposed of. If he is with the goldbugs, and desires to be understood, he should have nothing more to say about plans for the promotion of bimetalism by international agreement. Nobody agrees with him. The silver men care nothing about international agreement. They propose that the United States go it alone at 16 to 1. The goldbugs say that if bimetalism were possible at all, the United States could maintain it without the concurrence of other nations. McKinley is playing a lone hand and cheating at the game. He is so palpably dishonest in his expressions that we conclude that should the next Congress pass a free-coinage bill and be supported by a great show of public opinion, he would tumble and sign the bill."—*The News (Dem.), Mobile, Ala.*

The Retrogressive Senate.—Even as austere a body as the Senate of the United States tries to be may make speedy ruin of its influence by resorting to demagogery. It is noted by the financial newspapers that forty years ago the vote of the Senate favorable to a resolution of the Teller demand would have shaken the money markets of the world; but the passage of the resolution last Friday was considered only as political claptrap. It created not a ripple in commercial or speculative circles. . . . . .

"The attitude of the two branches of Congress on the issue shows clearly that the House, which stands for honest finances, is nearest to the people. The United States has the gold standard, and has had it for many years. In 1896, in the midst of panic, distress, and discontent, the country voted by a large majority to retain it. There are no signs of a change of sentiment among the people. In fact, the cause of free silverism appears to be weaker than ever before. It is not as strong as it was among the farmers. It is not as strong as it was among the workpeople in the cities and towns.

"From statesmanship to political degeneracy is not a long cry on the Democratic side of the Senate, but the House will be on guard in the interest of sound-money and currency reform. Confidence has returned, prosperity is here, and the silver agitation will be henceforth empty."—*The Commercial (Rep.), Louisville, Ky.*

Lesson to Extremists.—"Senator Lodge's amendment to the Teller resolution was an expression of the views of a small portion of the Republican Party in the East and of the Cleveland Democrats. It indicated a total despair of bimetalism and a committal to the doctrine that all obligations must be paid in gold as the only legal money. It is matter for congratulation that the extremists in this direction have met a fatal check.

"The Teller resolution, which was not a declaration for free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, but only a recital of the existing financial policy of the United States, is much preferable, and opposes radical and revolutionary action such as the Indianapolis school of finance is trying to force on the people against their will.

"A declaration for the single-gold standard, and making it obligatory on the Government to use only its gold coin in paying its obligations, would seriously affect the strength of the Republican Party at the next election. If such legislation is agitated and carried into effect the result will probably be a reaction and a triumph for the 16-to 1 cranks."—*The Times (Ind. Rep.), Leavenworth, Kans.*

"Perhaps the straightforward truth was best stated by Elkins, of West Virginia, who thought that as a legal proposition the resolution could not be successfully assailed, but he 'saw no reason for its passage now.' His comment applies only to the first part of the resolution, which declares that all bonds may be paid in silver dollars at the option of the Government. That is a matter of fact—the law so puts it. The other point in the resolution is that which declares that a return to free coinage now would not be in violation of the public faith nor in derogation of the rights of the public credit. This is perhaps more a matter of opinion than of fact."—*The Post-Intelligencer (Rep.), Seattle, Wash.*

"The Teller resolution will serve as an epitaph of the receding cause of the unlimited free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1 by this country irrespective of the action of the rest of the world. In its place there may arise in the changing conditions of the future, when the crazy agitations of the Tellers and Stewarts and Bryans are hushed, the more logical and reasonable agreement of the civilized world for the joint coinage of the two precious metals upon a practicable and enduring basis. Preceding that desirable event this first-class funeral in the closing of January may have been needful."—*The Hawkeye (Rep.), Burlington, Iowa.*

"The truth is, these conspirators of the Allen and Teller stamp desire to drive $600,000,000 of gold out of circulation. To do this it is only necessary to insist on paying all bond obligations in silver. Then, having contracted the currency by $600,000,000, they believe the country would be reduced to a silver basis, and the free and unlimited coinage of 40-cent dollars at a ratio of 16

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to 1 accomplished. Then the United States would be thoroughly Mexicanized and ready to seat Mr. Bryan in the White House."—*The Call* (*Rep.*), *Lincoln, Nebr.*

"Mr. Teller and his copartners have accomplished their purpose, in throwing, not a bombshell, but a firecracker, into business, and causing a disturbance to break the monotony of the present progress of prosperity. The effect will be neither widespread nor serious, for the Administration is for honest money, and has a majority of the House and the people behind it."—*The Ledger* (*Rep.*), *Tacoma, Wash.*

ANOTHER DECISION AGAINST ORGANIZED LABOR.

AN injunction has been issued by Judge Richardson, of the superior court, Boston, restraining Mayor Quincy from preventing or hindering contractors from completing their work on a city bath-house, because they do not employ members of the labor unions. The decision of the judge is based upon the illegality of intimidation or unlawful interference with the rights of employer and employed, and his interpretation of these terms is the significant phase of the opinion (see also decision of the supreme court of Pennsylvania in THE LITERARY DIGEST, December 11).

Mayor Quincy had directed the architects of the bath-house to notify certain contractors that under an article of the contract they would not be allowed to proceed to finish the work with non-union men. Judge Richardson held that the section of the contract referred to limited the right to end the contract to causes or reasons which pertained to the fitness or qualifications of the workmen for the performance of their work, and that an oral promise of a contractor to employ union men only, if made, was invalid. Judge Richardson in issuing a writ of injunction says, in part:

"No complaint has been made of the conduct of the plaintiffs on that work in any respect, except this—that they did not employ members of the labor unions—and it was finally admitted at the hearing—and proof of the fact was clear—that the only reason which the mayor ever had for his several orders suspending the plaintiffs' work, and then at last of wholly depriving them of it, was that they did not employ members of the labor unions. To accomplish this was the declared purpose of the said labor unions, members of which were frequently at the mayor's office about it—from the time when the work was begun—urging him to force the plaintiffs to comply with their wishes in this respect; and that they were also at the place where this work for the city was being done, bringing such influence and pressure to bear upon the plaintiffs' employees as they could. The mayor also admits that he had virtually promised the labor unions that unless the plaintiffs employed members of these unions he would deprive them of this contract. In this purpose and effort to compel the plaintiffs to dismiss their men, and to employ only members of the unions against their will, the other defendants participated, tho as to some of them, I ought, perhaps, to say that their part in it may have been an unwilling one.

"This interference by the members of the labor unions with the plaintiffs' work, to force the plaintiffs to employ union men only, by the means above stated and by the use of the police to exclude the plaintiffs from the building in which their contract work was to be done, was an unlawful interference with the plaintiffs' rights, and if permitted and continued would, in the language of the supreme court, in the discussion of a similar question, 'tend to establish a tyranny of irresponsible persons over labor and mechanical business which would be extremely injurious to both.'

"There is no authority in law for any officer of the Government, state or municipal, to force such a discrimination as was attempted in this case between workmen in respect to the privilege of labor on public work paid for by taxes levied upon all, for no reason except that some workmen belong to a certain party, society, or class, and others do not; thus giving labor and the benefit of it to one class, and denying it to another, regardless of their rights, needs, qualifications, or merits, or the public welfare. Such discrimination in the employment of labor is not in accord with our ideas of equal rights, and seems not to be consistent with an impartial administering of public business; and any agreement that such discrimination shall be made is contrary to public policy, and is, in my opinion, void. The constitution of Massachusetts declares that 'no man nor corporation nor association of men has any other title to obtain advantages or particular and exclusive privileges distinct from those of the community than what arises from the consideration of service rendered to the public.' Also that 'government is instituted for the common good—not for the profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men.'

"In a recent case, Vegelahn against Guntner, 167 Massachusetts, page 97 [Justice Holmes dissenting, see THE LITERARY DIGEST, November 7, 1896], the supreme judicial court (speaking of the interference of members of trades-unions with the plaintiffs in that case in the carrying on of their business), say, 'such an act (referring to an act of intimidation) is an unlawful interference with the rights both of employer and employed.' An employer has a right to engage all persons who are willing to work for him at such prices as may be mutually agreed upon; and persons employed or seeking employment have a corresponding right to enter into or remain in the employment of any person or corporation willing to employ them. No one can lawfully interfere by force or intimidation to prevent employers or persons employed or wishing to be employed from the exercise of these rights. In Massachusetts, as in some other States it is even made a criminal offense for one by intimidation of force to prevent or seek to prevent a person entering into or continuing in the employment of a person or a corporation. Public statutes, chapter 74, section 2: 'Intimidation is not limited to threats of violence or of physical injury to persons or property. It has a broader signification, and there also may be a moral intimidation which is illegal.' The criminal offense referred to is in section 2, chapter 508, of Acts of 1894, and is as follows: 'No person shall by intimidation or force prevent or seek to prevent a person from entering into or continuing in the employment of any person or corporation.' The penalty is a fine of $100. The right of every man to labor and to the benefit of his labor according to his ability, opportunity, and desire, should not be abridged. The corresponding right of an employer to procure labor suitable for his business, subject only to such general laws as the health, safety, morality, and welfare of the community may require, should be allowed. These rights of both parties are necessary. And both are under the protection of the law. The existence and value of industrial freedom require that it should be so."

TRIAL OF SHERIFF MARTIN AND HIS DEPUTIES.

ONE of the most extraordinary criminal trials ever held in this country began at Wilkesbarre, Pa., on the first of the month. The case is an outgrowth of the coal strike in Luzerne county last year (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, October 2). The strikers, mostly foreigners, on a march to Lattimer were met by Sheriff Martin, in command of about one hundred deputies. When the strikers attempted to proceed in the face of the sheriff, the deputies opened fire and killed eighteen men and wounded over forty others. The sheriff and seventy-two deputies were held under heavy bail to appear at this trial in the county court. Nineteen separate indictments charging murder and thirty-six charging felonious wounding have been returned against the defendants. Only one case is now being tried, but the result of it will determine the probable disposition of all. The newspapers are conducting a trial along with the court. Their comments on the case as it progresses indicate how many interesting questions are more or less involved in it.

Exact Facts May Never be Known.—"The aim of the Commonwealth and of the prosecuting parties will be to show that the killing of the miners was an unnecessary, cruel, and unjustifiable shedding of blood. The defense claims that the miners, who were engaged in a strike, were guilty of riotous conduct, and that the sheriff and his deputies were justified in resorting to extreme measures. The exact facts in the case will probably never be known. The strikers were marching to Lattimer, it is claimed,

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in orderly array when they were met by the sheriff and the men under his command. The sheriff ordered them to halt and the strikers obeyed the order. The miners were then told that they could not go to Lattimer, as they had intended, and what happened subsequently is still a matter of dispute. Probably, as claimed by the defense, the strikers pressed forward and the sheriff was crowded aside. Whether he was assaulted is not known positively, for the deputies fired almost instantly and the miners fled in all directions. It was a very shocking occurrence, whatever the facts may have been. Recourse to bloodshed was not justified unless the strikers could not have been subdued by less violent measures. On the other hand, in a crisis such as that which the sheriff had to face he was necessarily compelled to use his own discretion and to decide promptly what measures were necessary. Now that five months have passed, a court of law may be able to get at the facts and to render an impartial verdict."—*The Sun, Baltimore.*

Massacre and Trial.—"A strike was in progress among the miners of the neighborhood. Men sorely underpaid and cozened out of much they honestly earned determined upon that peaceful revolt which is labor's only weapon of defense—a sadly inadequate one. The men in a mine at Lattimer did not join in the strike. The strikers sought to influence them by marching to the mine in a body—much as in a political campaign some months earlier men sought to influence others to vote for one candidate or another by marching in the streets with banners. Two little boys carrying flags led the marchers—led them until the now indicted sheriff and deputies were encountered, heavily armed, closing the public highway to the unarmed and peaceable procession. There was a brief colloquy, joined in only by the men in the front rank. Suddenly, in a fit of frantic cowardice or unreasoning passion, the sheriff gave the word to fire. The all too-willing deputies obeyed—obeyed with such bloodthirsty zeal that many of the miners were shot in the back as they turned to flee from an unprovoked and murderous attack. That is in brief the story of the Lattimer massacre. . . . . .

"In their trial [the sheriff and deputies] are involved the rights of peaceable assemblage and procession, the right to use argument to influence one man to join another in any given course of conduct, the right of a sheriff to employ the weapons of death to enforce what may be his own stupid construction of the laws. There has never been any difficulty in securing the punishment of rioters. Justice has never moved with a leaden heel when pursuing workingmen who were guilty of offenses against order. Men have been hanged for inciting proletarian riots which resulted in murder. A man is now under sentence of death in California for a crime committed under the influence of the passions which the great Debs strike aroused. Imprisonment of strikers for breaches, real or false, of the law is as common as strikes themselves.

"The court at Wilkesbarre has now the opportunity to show to a working nation that there is one law for rich and poor; that the striker will be as thoroughly protected in his legal rights as will any citizen whose legal rights the striker purposes to invade."—*The Journal, New York.*

State Defense and Jury System.—"The trial of the sheriff and deputy sheriffs of Luzerne county, Pa., has begun, and of course it will prove one of the greatest criminal cases of the generation. The crime of murder is charged, and the friends of the victims of the shooting will make every endeavor to prove the prisoners' guilt. Some criticism may possibly be directed against a code which compels the State, while bound in honor to protect the officers of the law in the performance of their duties, to assume the task of prosecuting Sheriff Martin and his men. Perhaps there should be some way of dividing the responsibility of the authorities whenever they are called on to face in two such different directions. If collusion were to be anticipated between the State as the preserver of law and order and the same power as the defender of those who, it is supposed, represented it at Hazleton, it is quite plain that the facilities offered by the statutes of Pennsylvania to secure justice in such a cause as this might be unavailing. But the jury system appears to forbid unfairness. It will probably leave no question as to the justice of the conclusion which may be passed upon the guilt or innocence of the prisoners. And it is especially desirable that it should not, because representatives of Austro-Hungary, Germany, and Italy are said to be watching the trial with the view of protecting their subjects in case Pennsylvania does not administer the law properly."—*The Journal, Providence, R. I.*

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

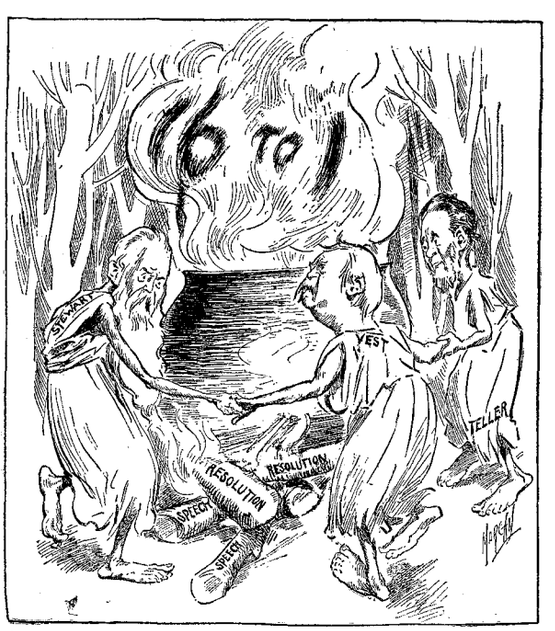
IN the House of Representatives Mr. Dingley and Speaker Reed make a majority.—*The Ledger, Philadelphia.*

CUBA, from February, 1895, to December, 1897, cost Spain $240,000,000. This is official.—*The Republican, Springfield.*

THE German Emperor's valuation of a missionary runs all the way from $5,000,000 in China to 0 in Armenia.—*The Globe-Democrat, St. Louis.*

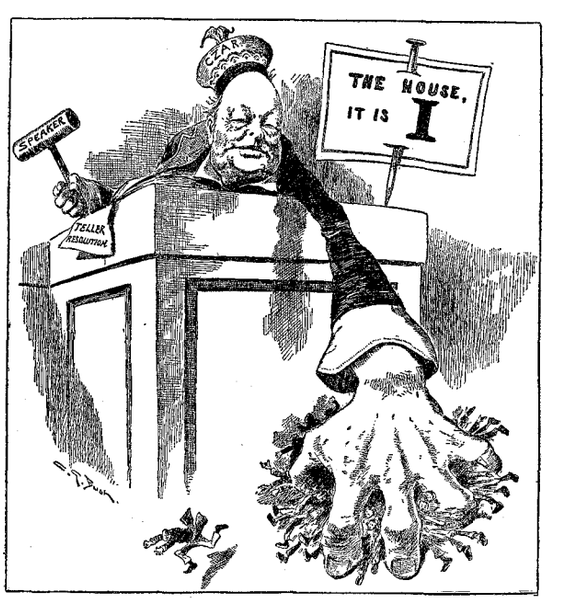
IT seems that the chances for currency reform will be slim until we can have United States Senators elected by direct vote of the monetary commission.—*The News, Detroit.*

MORE than 1,000 persons sailed from Seattle yesterday in order to be on the spot when the government's Klondike relief expedition reaches its destination.—*The Tribune, Detroit.*



THE SILVER CONSPIRACY AT WASHINGTON.

CHORUS OF WITCHES: "Double, double, toil and trouble; fire burn and caldron bubble." —*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*



HE KNOWS HIS BUSINESS.

—*The World, New York.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI.

"IN the long list of those women who have contributed with success to English verse, two names stand out so preeminently that the hasty critic is justified in saying that, in the broad sense, we have had but two female poets—Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Christina Rossetti." Such is the sentence with which *Literature* begins a review of a new "biographical and critical study" of the latter elect lady. This study is an authorized biography

(From the drawing by Dante Gabriel Rossetti.)

Sincerely yours
Christina G. Rossetti

by Mackenzie Bell, and the reviewer does not think very much of it; but for the subject of the biography he speaks in terms of unequivocal praise:

"When Descartes was asked whether the clattering of wooden shoes in the streets of Amsterdam did not disturb his meditations, he said, 'No more than would the babble of a rivulet.' Christina Rossetti lived thus in the central roar of London, unconcerned by it, unsubjugated. The futilities of middle-class existence in a great town, the formulas, the vulgarities of society, the influence of the powerful minds with which she came in contact passed over her without distracting her from her silent, central aim. She lived for two great purposes, which were closely intertwined—for the service of God, and for the practise of her art. Whatever disturbed this twofold dedication was put aside. Twice, as her biographer relates, she was offered marriage, and twice was conscious of an attractiveness in the proposal. Each time—no doubt with tears, but unquestionably with a holy joy—she determined not to risk a union with one who might come between her and the double lode-star of religion and poetry. Hers was the conventual spirit, but developed in a nature so strong that it required no walls or bars. Tremulous and shrinking as she seemed, she was built in the most obstinate mold of martyrs."

The reviewer, as many reviewers before him have done, takes a shot or two at Mr. W. M. Rossetti, whom he holds responsible not only for his own faults but for most of those committed by Mr. Bell:

"Mr. Bell, good honest man, is not an artist in anything. He is bound hand and foot, in the first place, captive to the terrible Mr. W. M. Rossetti, that giant of mediocrity, grinding his family annals to dust in the dark. Posterity will surely have some very harsh things to say of Mr. W. M. Rossetti, whose ghost will receive them with the same bewildered surprise as George III. did the reproaches of his enemies in 'The Vision of Judgment.' For Mr. W. M. Rossetti is a perfectly honest man, guileless and bland. He corrected Shelley's grammar, he told the world many private details of his brother's illnesses, he published in a fat volume all the inferior verses his sister, exquisite artist that she was, had determined never to print; and in all these and many other similar cases he believed that he was acting 'for the best,' as tactless people say. It is a terrible thing to be a perfectly honest man when you have absolutely no critical judgment whatever, nor the rudiments of a sense of proportion.

"If we are severe on poor Mr. W. M. Rossetti it is because the tiresome faults of this book seem largely due to him. He has hung over Mr. Bell like a kite over a mouse. It is to him we owe the fact, of such thrilling interest, that in her youth Christina read 'Casabianca,' and that 'Robinson Crusoe' was 'not neglected.' It is to him that we owe the hideous information about the 'exophthalmic bronchocele' from which the unhappy lady suffered. It is to him that we owe the precious detail that there hung 'a rather elaborate glass chandelier for candles' in the poet's drawing-room. The memoir teems with this kind of statement. To Mr. W. M. Rossetti a fact is a fact, and all facts are of equal value. A note about a 'knobbed bodkin' is as precious, neither more nor less, than the most characteristic revelation of the soul of a mystic. If Mr. Bell had been a stronger man, he would have accepted all the jejune material supplied him by Mr. W. M. Rossetti, and would have silently rejected whatever did not serve his purpose. But he visibly shudders under the eye of that ancient mariner, and down goes the whole material, knobbed bodkin and elaborate glass chandelier and all."

Miss Rossetti's life was not one to afford much scope to a biographer. Born in London December 5, 1830, the youngest child of Gabrielle Rossetti, the Italian patriot-poet, no one could, we are told, in such intellectual surroundings as hers, have lived a life more persistently sequestered. The reviewer concludes:

"After all, tho, we turn with curiosity to Mr. Bell's pages, and tho we are glad to possess many things which this volume for the first time gives us, a biography of Christina Rossetti is not essential to a comprehension of her place in literature. She lives by certain verses which a single small book would contain, and in that confined space she lives magnificently. If we regard not bulk nor width of subject nor variety of style, but transcendent excellence in what a writer does best, Christina Rossetti takes her place in the first rank of the poets of the Victorian age. Tennyson, whose poetical judgments were seldom at fault, 'expressed,' his son tells us, 'profound respect for Christina Rossetti, as a true artist.' She was, indeed, one of the truest that this century has seen, and it is inconceivable that a time can ever come when her starry melodies are repeated to unresponding ears. She is, indeed, the standing exception to that general rule, from which Mrs. Browning herself is not exempt, that women take insufficient pains to be finished and concise. In her great lyrics, such as 'Passing away, saith the World,' 'At Home,' 'A Birthday,' or 'A Better Resurrection,' not a word is out of place, not a cadence neglected, and the brief poem rises with a *crescendo* of passion. This is what all lyrical poets are called to do, but alas! how few are chosen!"

The Finest Balladist of Modern Days.—Walter Pulitzer thinks that Reginald de Koven is not fully appreciated. He institutes (in the Newark *Call*) a comparison between De Koven and Sir Arthur Sullivan, and finds that, both as a balladist and as a writer of romantic comic opera, De Koven is the superior composer. Whereas Sullivan excels in the originality of his themes, "De Koven excels in depth, in instrumentation, harmonization, romantic atmosphere, in fact in the intrinsic quality of

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his music." Mr. Pulitzer also has high words of praise for De Koven's ballads, and wonders why singers have not discovered them. He says:

"I hear that his songs have a very large sale, yet I doubt if many of those who enjoy a hearing of his operas know that he has written about fifty songs, the best of which represent the high-water mark of cisatlantic song-writing and balladry. Admitting that Sullivan has written beautful songs besides 'The Lost Chord,' 'Golden Days,' and 'My Love Beyond the Sea' (and if he has I don't know them), what meed of praise is properly due to the author of such flawless gems as 'The Winter's Lullaby' (one of the greatest songs ever composed), 'Good-Night, Lizette' (the very perfection of a love serenade), 'My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose' (incomparably the finest of the many settings to this old favorite), 'In June' (as pastoral as 'Cherry Ripe' and more ingenious), 'Woman Like a Dewdrop' (peculiar and original), 'Indian Love-Song' (a weird but majestic song), 'Song at Evening,' 'My Love Will Come To-day,' and, in a lighter vein, but showing the same genius, 'Japanese Lullaby,' 'Dutch Lullaby,' 'Norman Cradle Song,' 'Little Doris,' and many others? Yet these lyrical inspirations are shamefully neglected by the average concert-singer. Programs are filled up with dry-wood stuff by Bizet, or Gounod, or Grieg, or Saint-Saëns, because these names are foreign.

"If I were a singer I know I could make a fortune out of De Koven's ballads. Such a serenade as 'Good-Night, Lizette,' would bring down a house, if properly sung. To the average mind 'Oh, Promise Me,' represents the sum of De Koven's song output, and yet this is one of the poorest he has produced. The success of it surprised the author himself."

Continuing, Mr. Pulitzer characterizes De Koven as "the author of the finest ballads and the most charming romantic opera of these modern days," and "the most famous figure in the American musical firmament to-day."

THE RECOVERY OF A LOST GREEK CLASSIC.

THE discovery several months ago, in an Egyptian tomb, of a papyrus written about the middle of the first century, containing the Odes of Bacchylides, the rival of Pindar, was duly chronicled at the time. Since then, F. G. Kenyon, M.A., D.Litt., of the British Museum, has been editing the long-lost work. The material reached him in about two hundred torn fragments, which, when pieced together, give us twenty distinguishable poems, six of which are practically complete. Mr. Kenyon's work has been finished, and the volume embodying it is reviewed in the London *Academy*.

Who was Bacchylides? The question is answered by *The Academy* reviewer as follows:

"Of Bacchylides we had but a hundred lines of fragments and the laudatory notices of the Alexandrian and Byzantine critics. We knew that he wrote in the first half of the fifth century, that he was born in Ceos, that he came of poetic stock, being the nephew of Simonides, that he was exiled from the island and dwelt in the Peloponnese. Like Pindar, he found a patron in Hieron, the tyrant of Syracuse, and the two poets were in a way rivals. Pindar, indeed, is supposed to allude to Bacchylides in phrases of some asperity. He was, however, held to be one of the nine lyric poets of Greece, and the author of the treatise 'De Sublimitate' affords him considerable praise. He does not put him on Pindar's level, but ascribes to him a 'smooth, equable, and pleasing' genius, which neither rises so high nor sinks so low as that of his great contemporary."

Bacchylides was to Pindar, says Mr. Kenyon, as Sophocles to Æschylus, or, remarks *The Academy*, as Tennyson to Browning. The first fourteen odes in the new volume are in celebration of victories in the athletic games. The six remaining odes were probably written as pæans to be sung by choirs at festivals of Apollo or Dionysus. In effect, they are lyrical idylls in which the literary interest is predominant, brief studies of moments in legends which had been the subjects of previous epical treatment. *The Academy* gives us a translation of a portion of the eighteenth ode, which it considers the most interesting of all. The dialog is between Ægeus, king of Athens, and his wife, Medea, who speak alternate strophes. Theseus, the son of Ægeus, who has been brought up at Troezen, is coming to Athens, doing deeds of heroism on his way. A herald has announced the advent of a formidable stranger:

MEDEA.

"King of sacred Athens! Lord of the Ionians who live delicately! Why has the trumpet's brazen note even now blared forth its warlike message? Is it that some foeman with his host besets the frontiers of our land? Or do raiders of evil intent harry the herds by force, hungry for fat cattle! Or of what does thy heart misgive thee? Speak; for of all men thou, I ween, hast brave young hearts at need, thou, a king sprung from Pandion and Creusa."

ÆGEUS.

"But even now came a herald, footing it over the long Isthmian way; and unheard deeds of a mighty doer he tells. The insolent Sinis he has slain, strongest among men, the child of Kronos's son who split the ravine and shakes the earth. He has slain the man-eater in the glens of Krommyon, and slain Skiron who lorded it in might. He has stayed the wrestling-school of Kerkyon, and the dread club of Polypemon has Prokoptes dropped, for he met with the better man. My heart misgives me how these things shall end."

MEDEA.

"Whom reports he the man to be, and whence coming? What his garb? Brings he a great array in harness of war, or comes he alone and unarmed, like some wandering merchant to an alien land, this man who is so strong and brave and bold, that he has quelled the strength of mighty champions? Surely some god impels him, that he may wreak justice on the unjust. How else should one be doing always and light on no mischance? But of all this will time see the issue."

ÆGEUS.

"Two squires and no more he tells of, and a sword on the gleaming shoulders, and in the hands two polished darts. Upon his auburn hair is a cunning helm of Lacedæmon, and for raiment he has a purple shirt and a wooly mantle of Thessalian weft. The light in his eyes is as the fires of Lemnos. Only a lad is he, in the morning of life. His heart is set on the joys of Ares—war and the clash of bronze in battle. And his questing is for the splendors of Athens town."

A French Critic on "The Christian."—Hall Caine's "Christian" is receiving nearly as rough handling from foreign as from English and American critics. In the *Revue des Deux Mondes* M. T. de Wyzewa reviews the book at some length. After a *résumé* of the story, the critic says that the subject has been treated more than once before, but particularly in a little French romance, "Le Chrétien," whose heroine, under the name of Manon Lescaut, charmed many readers during the last century. M. Wyzewa continues:

"The eminent critic, Mr. Lang, has kindly requested foreign readers not to believe that this kind of literature is honored by English men of letters. It is certainly, however, the kind of literature which the English public prefers to all others for the religious motives which they discover or think they discover in it. For in a *résumé* it is impossible to give an idea of the gaucherie of this romance by Hall Caine, its length and monotony, its incessant repetitions of the same scene in the same circumstances. The book is too long by half, and without the least profit. It is full of errors and improbabilities. . . . The entire romance seems an adaptation of the literary methods of Eugene Sue and the old story of Manon Lescaut. . . . And yet English readers piously devour these 460 pages, and journalists have been found to compare 'The Christian' with the noble and pure meditations of Cardinal Newman. . . . . .

"It is not that Mr. Caine is devoid of talent. In the first place

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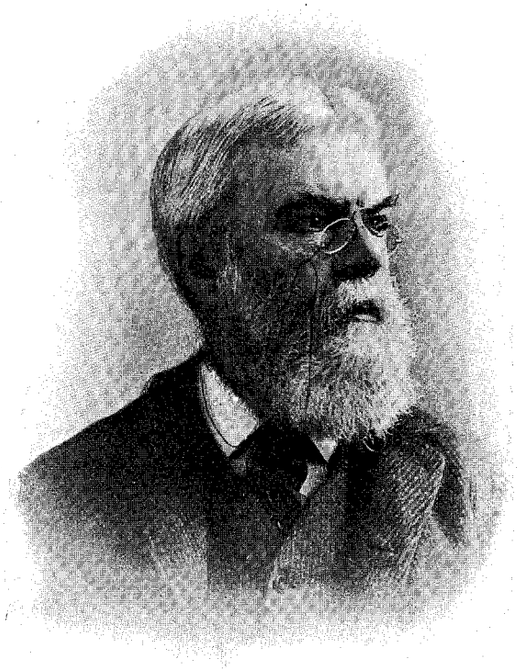
he has the talent of choosing for each of his books the style and tone most in fashion. . . . Mr. Hall Caine does not know how to compose a romance, but he does know how to give to different scenes of his novels a relief and movement which makes them peculiarly exciting. It is an art which, without doubt, he learned in the school of Dickens, for he has written nothing some part of which, one can not help feeling, has not been adapted from something else. But it has been well adapted. . . . And then he knows how to write, which is not common among authors of his kind; and this disguises the vulgarity or improbability of his romantic inventions. Finally, he knows the Isle of Man. . . . .

"But all these qualities are not sufficient to excuse this mixture in a Christian romance. I know very well that the Isle of Man is not like other islands, for there the cats are born without tails; but I can not believe that it is injurious to it to suppose it incapable of producing so false a specimen of Christian as John Storm, bad priest and bad lover, profaning the truth he pretends to serve."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

LAST WORK OF JUSTIN WINSOR.

"I HAVE told my story; now I am willing to take a rest." With these words, Dr. Justin Winsor, it is said, laid down his pen after finishing his work, "The Westward Movement." A few months later, almost simultaneously with the appearance of the book, the rest came to him—the "long, long rest."

"The Westward Movement" treats of "the Colonies and the republic west of the Alleghanies—1760–98." It is published as



JUSTIN WINSOR.

an independent work, but in reality forms the close of a series of three books by the same author, the other two of which are: "Cartier to Frontenac" and "The Mississippi Basin." *The Atlantic Monthly* says of "The Westward Movement": "It brings the story of our Western expansion down to the close of the last century, and establishes more firmly than ever the author's right to be considered preeminently the historian of the geography of the continent." Of the three works named above, as well as of Dr. Winsor's "Christopher Columbus" and of the eight volumes constituting his "Narrative and Critical History of America," B. A. Hinsdale, writing in *The Dial*, says:

"These works all bear the same well-known marks—thorough original investigation, strong grasp of material, especially cartography, and admirable synthesis of historical and scientific elements. These are all very great merits in an historical writer. In his chosen field no one denies, but all admit, Dr. Winsor's easy superiority; he is a master indeed. But when we come to method and style, not so much can be said. Dr. Winsor is never weak and is sometimes picturesque; but he has no claim to rank, to put it mildly, among the masters of historical composition. Still, his works are of solid and enduring value, and when all the facts attending their production are considered, they reveal large resources and great productivity of mind."

Speaking more particularly of "The Westward Movement," Professor Hinsdale writes:

"It presents three closely connected groups of facts: First, the gathering of forces in the region west of the Alleghany Mountains following the French and Indian War that made it possible for the united Colonies to contest its possession with Great Britain in the War of the Revolution; secondly, the resulting contest, which culminated in the Treaty of Paris, 1783, determining the first boundaries of the republic; thirdly, the subsequent struggle whereby the republic shook off the British hold of the Northwest and the Spanish hold of the Southwest, thus for the first time setting free all its members. . . . Within these limits lies, no doubt, the ablest exposition of the important topics they embrace which has ever been given to the public."

PROFESSOR DOWDEN'S SURVEY OF FRENCH LETTERS.

DUBLIN and Oxford, Edinburgh and Princeton, have conferred distinctions of rank and titles in letters upon Prof. Edward Dowden, and all who know his splendid equipment of scholarship, his critical faculty, and his style, are prepared to accept with satisfaction the report of his incursions in the domain of French literature from the "Chanson de Roland" to the literary portraits of Sainte-Beuve. "My collaborators," says Professor Dowden, in the preface to his "History of French Literature," "are on my shelves." From each he has accepted a gift—from those who have written general histories of French literature, and those who have written histories of periods, and those who have studied special fields or forms, and those who have written monographs on great authors, or short critical studies of books or groups of books.

He deals with the medieval period, the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, and the period extending from the Revolution to the incoming of Napoleon III. He enlarges as he proceeds, handling but slightly the "Chanson de Roland" and the Arthurian romances, he portrays with sympathy the personality and the delightful art of Froissart, lingers over Rabelais and Montaigne, and expresses his truest and finest art in his literary portraits of Corneille, Racine, and Molière, of Montesquieu, Voltaire, and Diderot, of Mme. de Staël and Lamartine, Musset and Hugo.

Professor Dowden finds the charm of *naïveté* blended with pious feeling and imagination in the "Contes Pieux"—mainly the work of Gautier de Coinci (1177–1236), a Benedictine monk, who translated from Latin sources with freedom, adding matter of his own, and giving us in the course of his ingenuous narratives an image, far from flattering, of the life and manners of his own time:

"It is he who tells of the robber who, being accustomed to commend himself in his adventures to our Lady, was supported on the gibbet for three days by her white hands, and received his pardon; and of the illiterate monk who suffered shame because he knew no more than his *Ave Maria*, but who, when dead, was proved a holy man by the five roses that came from his mouth in honor of the five letters of Maria's name; and of the nun who quitted her convent to lead a life of disorder, yet still addressed a daily prayer to the Virgin, and who, returning after long years,

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found that the Blessed Mary had filled her place, and that her absence was unknown."

And so, in the collection known as the "Vies des Pères," we read of Théophile, the repentant priest, who sold his soul to the devil, and receives back from the "Queen of Heaven" the very document by which he has put his salvation in pawn. And further:

"The sinner (*Chevalier au barillet*) who endeavors for a year to fill the hermit's little cask at running streams, and endeavors in vain, finds it brimming the moment one tear of true penitence falls into the vessel. Most exquisite in its feeling is the tale of the 'Tombeur de Nôtre-Dame'—a poor acrobat—a *jongleur* turned monk—who knows not even the *Pater noster* or the *Credo*, and can only offer before our Lady's altar his tumbler's feats; he is observed, and as he sinks worn out and faint before the shrine, the Virgin is seen to descend, with her angelic attendants, and to wipe away the sweat from her poor servant's forehead. If there be no other piety in such a tale as this, there is at least the piety of human pity."

From the infantile credulity and devotion of the monks of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, with their marvelous and poetic stories, to the novels and romances of Balzac, Hugo, Dumas, is a long cry: Balzac, with his robust frame, his resolute will, "manifest in a face coarsely powerful," his generous good-nature, his large egoism, his audacity of brain. Nevertheless, he tried the trades of publisher, printer, type-founder, and only succeeded in encumbering himself with dust. From the day that he began to wield his pen with power, to the day, in 1850, when he died, exhausted by the passion of his brain, his own life was concentered in that of the creatures of his imagination. He wrote with desperate resolve, even with violence. He retired to sleep at six in the evening, and rose at midnight to work, urging his nerves with drafts of coffee, until the intemperance of toil wore him out:

"There is something gross in Balzac's genius; he has little wit, little delicacy, no sense of measure, no fine self-criticism, no lightness of touch, small insight into the life of refined society, an imperfect sense of natural beauty, a readiness to accept vulgar marvels as the equivalent of spiritual mysteries; he is monarchical without the sentiment of chivalric loyalty, a Catholic without the sentiment of religion; he piles sentence on sentence, hard and heavy as the accumulated stones of a cairn. Did he love his art for its own sake? It must have been so; but he esteemed it also as an implement of power, as the means of pushing toward fame and grasping gold."

Victor Hugo is presented as a schoolboy in Paris, riming his chivalric epic, his tragedy, his melodrama; in 1816 he wrote in his note-book, "I wish to be Chateaubriand or nothing." At fifteen he was the laureate of the *Jeux Floraux*, the "*Enfant Sublime*" of Chateaubriand's praise:

"In Victor Hugo an enormous imagination and a vast force of will operated amid inferior faculties. His character was less eminent than his genius. If it is vanity to take a magnified Brocken-shadow for oneself and to admire its superb gestures upon the mist, never was vanity more complete or more completely satisfied than his. He was to himself the hero of a Hugo legend, and did not perceive when the sublime became the ridiculous. Generous to those beneath him, charitable to universal humanity, he was capable of passionate vindictiveness against individuals who had wounded his self-esteem; and, since whatever opposed him was necessarily an embodiment of the power of evil, the contest rose into one of Ormuzd against Ahriman."

His intellect was absorbed by his imagination. "Vacuous generalities, clothed in magnificent rhetoric, could pass with him for ideas." The voice of his passions was leonine; his moral sensibility lacked delicacy; his laughter was rather boisterous than fine; he was traversed by a vein of robust sensuality:

"He was a master of all harmonies of verse; now a solitary breather through pipe or flute; more often the conductor of an orchestra.

"To say that Hugo was the greatest lyric poet of France is to say too little; the claim that he was the greatest lyric poet of all literature might be urged. The power and magnitude of his song result from the fact that in it what is personal and what is impersonal are fused in one; his soul echoed orchestrally the orchestrations of nature and of humanity—

> 'Son âme aux mille voix, que le Dieu qu'il adore
> Mit au centre de tout comme un écho sonore.'

And thus if his poetry is not great by virtue of his own ideas, it becomes great as a reverberation of the sensations, the passions, and the thoughts of the world. He did not soar tranquilly aloft and alone; he was always a combatant in the world and wave of men, or borne joyously upon the flood. The evolution of his genius was a long process."

Hugo's narratives are eminent by virtue of his imagination as a poet; they are lyrical, dramatic, epic; as a reconstitution of history, their value is little or none.

In the instincts of a dramatist, Hugo fell far short of Alexandre Dumas. The historical novel was the domain of Dumas; there we find brilliancy, animation, bustle, audacity, inexhaustible invention, as in "Les Trois Mousquetaires" and its high-spirited fellows:

"Let the critics assure us that Dumas's history is untrue, his characters superficial, his action incredible; we admit it, and we are caught again by the flash of life, the fanfaronade of adventure. We throw Eugène Sue to the critics that we may save Alexandre Dumas. But Dumas's brain worked faster than his hand—or any human hand—could obey its orders; the mine of his inventive faculty needed a commercial company and an army of diggers for its exploitation. He constituted himself the managing director of this company; twelve hundred volumes are said to have been the output of the chief and his subordinates; the work ceased to be literature, and became mere commerce. The money that Dumas accumulated he recklessly squandered. Half genius, half charlatan, his genius decayed, and his charlatanry grew to enormous proportions. Protected by his son, he died a poor man amid the disasters of the Franco-Prussian war."

Professor Dowden recognizes in Michelet "the greatest imaginative restorer of the past," the greatest historical interpreter of the soul of ancient France:

"A passionate searcher among original sources, published and unpublished, handling documents as if they were things of flesh and blood, seeing the outward forms of existence with the imaginative eye, pressing through these to the soul of each successive epoch, possessed by an immense pity for the obscure generations of human toilers, having, more than almost any other modern writer, Virgil's gift of tears, ardent in admiration, ardent in indignation, with ideas impregnated by emotions, and emotions quickened by ideas, Michelet set himself to resuscitate the buried past. It seemed to him that his eminent predecessors—Guizot, Mignet, Thiers, Thierry—had each envisaged history from some special point of view. Each had too little of the outward body or too little of the inward soul of history. Michelet dared to hope that a resurrection of the integral life of the dead centuries was possible. All or nothing was his word. It was a bold venture, but it was a venture, or rather an act, of faith."

We are reminded of his faults as a historian—his rash generalizations, his lyrical outbursts, his Pindaric excitement, his verbiage in the place of ideas, his romantic excess, his violence in ecclesiastical affairs, his mysticism, tainted with sensuality, his insistence in physiological details, as in "L'Amour" and "La Femme," his spasmodic and irregular utterance—these blur his insight and discredit his science. He died at Hyères in 1874, praying God to grant him the peace promised to those who have sought and loved.

We are told of Béranger, that child of Paris, of humble parentage, who discovered, after some experimenting, that his part was not that of a singer of large ambitions:

"Standing between the bourgeoisie and the people, he mediated between the popular and the middle-class sentiment. His songs flew like town sparrows from garret to garden; impudent or discreet, they nested everywhere. They seemed to be the embodied

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wisdom of good sense, good temper, easy morals, love without its ardors, poverty without its pains, patriotism without its fatigues, a religion on familiar terms with the *Dieu des bonnes gens*. . . . Béranger was skilled in the art of popular song; he knew the virtue of concision; he knew how to evolve swiftly his little lyric drama; he knew how to wing his verses with a violent refrain; he could catch the sentiment of the moment and of the multitude; he could be gay with touches of tenderness, and smile through a tear reminiscent of departed youth and pleasure and Lisette. For the good bourgeois he was a liberal in politics and religion; for the people he was a democrat who hated the Restoration, loved equality more than liberty, and glorified the legendary Napoleon, representative of democratic absolutism. In the history of politics the songs of Béranger count for much; in the history of literature the poet has a little niche of his own, with which one may be content who, if he had not in elder years supposed himself the champion of a literary revolution, might be called modest."

"GERMAN COMPOSERS" WHO WERE NOT GERMAN.

HAYDN, supposed by most of his present-day admirers to have been a German, was no German at all, but a Slavonian from South Croatia. Such, at least, is what Mr. Hadow tries to prove in a recent volume issued in England, and, in the opinion of *The St. James's Gazette*, he makes out his case. According to Mr. Hadow, Germany and Italy both have reaped no little fame that belongs properly to that obscure Hungarian province, Croatia. *The St. James's Gazette* critic thus summarizes the case:

"Germany has profited largely, in every department of intellectual activity, by the custom which until recent times prevailed among Slavonians of Germanizing their names—or, rather, of adapting and translating them into the language of the country in which they happened to have settled. The so-called 'Hummel,' whose Bohemian origin is indicated by his Christian name, 'Nepomuk,' was a Germanized Czech. Zingarelli and Tartini were Italianized Croatians. Tartini seems to have been little more than a name of fantasy. But Zingarelli corresponds closely enough with the Slavonian 'tsigan,' or 'zigeun'; which latter, according to Mr. Hadow, was the name (or description) by which Zingarelli was known in his native Croatia. Most, however of the Slavonian musicians who emigrated from their own poor homes passed into neighboring German lands and adopted German names.

"The arguments in favor of the Slavonic origin of the Bach family are chiefly from probability. Sebastian's grandparents dwelt at Pressburg, and were, in all likelihood, even as the great bulk of the non-Hungarian population, Slavonians. The name of Bach as borne by their grandchildren settled at Leipsic proves nothing, since it was the custom of the time for Slavonians established in German cities to Germanize their names. To deprive Germany of Bach, Haydn, and Hummel—to say nothing of minor musical lights—is indeed to weaken her claims to esteem as a great musical nation. But let them all go. Let Beethoven, moreover, be reclaimed from Germany as a Fleming. Even then the leading musical country would have left to her a sufficient number of great composers whose Germanism is quite indisputable; Mozart, for instance, Schubert, Schumann, Weber, and Wagner.

"But if Mr. Hadow's general theme is the Slavonianism of many supposed Germans, his special one is the Croatianism of Joseph Haydn. To the Croat has been attached an evil reputation of the same barbarous character as that which Campbell imputes to 'the whiskered Pandour and the fierce Hussar.' But, as a matter of fact—so Mr. Hadow assures us—every third man in Croatia is either a singer, a player, or a composer; and Mr. Hadow proves by an abundance of citations that Haydn's wonderful fertility in beautiful melodies had its origin in the rich melodic character of Croatia's popular songs."

The Secret of "Alice in Wonderland's" Charm.—Tho we are all, little and big, delighted with "Alice," it is difficult to analyze the sources of our pleasure. Even critics of the Johnsonian school, who would hardly admit that nonsense pure and simple could furnish amusement to intelligent minds, yield to "Lewis Carroll's" nonsense. *Literature* attempts an analysis as follows:

"Where, then, as Dr. Johnson remarked on a memorable occasion, is the merriment? The inquiry would be a singular one, and certainly nobody would have been more delighted than Mr. Dodgson if a chain commencing with 'Alice' had been shown to extend, not merely into logic and mathematics, but into the farther wonderland of metaphysics and psychology. And yet it seems probable that we relish 'Lewis Carroll's' nonsense because in it we see mirrored certain dark and mysterious portions of our nature. In the eighteenth century philosophy had come to the conclusion that man was a purely rational animal, and from this standpoint Johnson judged 'Lycidas' to be rubbish, or something very near it. But it seems probable that man is not only born rational but also irrational, that deep in the heart there is a dungeon, where two-sided triangles abound, where Achilles chases the tortoise in vain, eternally, where parallel straight lines are continually meeting. It is the world of contradictions, of the impossible realized, the world of which we dream at nights, and, above all, it is the world which is the home of children, far more true and real to them than all the assemblage of rational sublunary things. 'Lewis Carroll' had perhaps learnt from his friend Mr. Dodgson, the mathematical tutor, that such a sphere existed, and he journeyed into that dim and mysterious land, and has succeeded in telling us the story of his 'Voyage and Travaile.' This, surely, is the secret of 'Alice,' this is the secret of its charm for children, whose thoughts are ineffable, and those of us who read the tale in later years feel, unconsciously, that we, too, have passed through the Looking-Glass, and have been in the realm of contradiction. Maundeville described the incredible wonders of the material world; 'Lewis Carroll' shows us the marvels of the microcosm, that little world of the soul, in which there be many simulacres and monstrous creatures."

NOTES.

THE Paris municipality met on the very day of Daudet's funeral and decided to name a street after him.

THE total number of new books of fiction for last year was just forty short of two thousand. This was an increase of nearly twenty per cent. over 1896.

THE auction sale of the Stewart collection of paintings and other works of art, which took place in Chickering Hall, New York, Thursday and Friday, February 4 and 5, was an event of great interest in the art world. The surprisingly large total of the two nights' sale was $409,790. The highest figure paid was $42,000, given by W. A. Clark, of Montana, the largest individual mine-owner in the United States, for the superb and famous Fortuny "The Choice of a Model." Mr. Stewart is said to have purchased the painting in the late '70s for $10,000.

A "BOOM" in interest in Peter the Great is announced by *Harper's Weekly* as almost upon us; a "boom" similar to to that which raged for years around the personality of Napoleon. Sir Henry Irving, with all the world open to him, has chosen a play on Peter the Great, written by his son. Prof. Oscar Browning is about to publish a life of the inevitable Peter; and Mr. J. M. Graham's historical novel, "The Son of the Czar," has attracted considerable attention. *Harper's Weekly* thinks there is something significant in this renaissance of Peter the Great and, pretends to see behind it the sinister purpose of the Slav to dominate Europe.

THE two most eminent men of letters whose centenaries fall this year are both Italian—Metastasio and Leopardi. The two hundredth anniversary of Metastasio's birthday is already over, for he was born on the 6th of January, 1698. His fame rests on the important part he played in the development of opera. Leopardi is a hundred years nearer to us in time, and nearer than that in sentiment. The pessimism, however, which nowadays is a fashionable affectation of young novelists, was a bitter reality to the young Italian of genius, who suffered pain and ill-health all his life and died before he was forty years of age. His centenary falls on the 29th of June next.

WORKS of art, it has long been supposed, have ceased to be considered legitimate spoils of war. Many will be surprised and pained to know that the custom has been revived by the conquering Turks in Greece. So long ago as last summer an order was sent by the Director of Museums at Constantinople to the commander-in-chief of the Turkish army in Thessaly to transport to the capital all antiquities which he came across during the occupation. This has been done; and, what is more, the European powers in settling the treaty of peace appear to have ignored, if they did not actually assent to, the spoliation. All that could be done was done by the French School at Athens, who obtained permission, at the advice of the French consul at Volo, to photograph every piece and every inscription before its deportation.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

MARCONI ON WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

SIGNOR MARCONI, the inventor of the most successful system of wireless telegraphy, about which we have already printed considerable information, has recently given his views of the present state and future possibilities of his invention in an interview with Laura A. Smith, published in *The Humanitarian* (London, January). After modestly disclaiming all credit for himself beyond that due to the combination and development of the devices of others, Signor Marconi said, when asked whether he thought that his mode of signaling through space would supersede the ordinary method:

"No, I do not say so; it is not probable that it will supplant ordinary telegraphy, at least yet a while, but it will do, indeed is doing, things which ordinary telegraphy can not; for it can be used in places which have not before been practicable for telegraphic communication, where in fact wires were an impossibility."

In response to a request that he should particularize on this point, the inventor said:

"Take, for instance, islands which can not communicate with the mainland, and there are many such. They are unable to maintain cables, as these are subject to the constant friction of contact with the rocks, and they frequently break. In Scotland, where the seas are high, it is especially difficult to connect these islands with the main, and for many reasons it is desirable, nay imperative, that it should become feasible. It may be that owing to storms and stress the inhabitants themselves are in danger, in want of common necessaries; perhaps there is an outbreak of illness which they have not sufficient medical aid to combat, or a want of provender which must end in famine, if not replenished from other sources; or it may be that some ship in distress is making signals to the island, and the islanders possibly feel that their efforts can at best be but puny ones where there is so much misery to relieve. With the new system of telegraphy there will not be any difficulty in establishing communication, not only between the ships in distress and the island, but also between the latter and the mainland. What will be necessary will be for each to have a transmitter and a receiver, and then the means of communication will be thoroughly established. Some very good experiments have lately been made in Germany."

To the question: "Can you point to any recent disaster at sea where your system would have been serviceable even to the extent of absolutely averting the danger?" Signor Marconi gave the following reply:

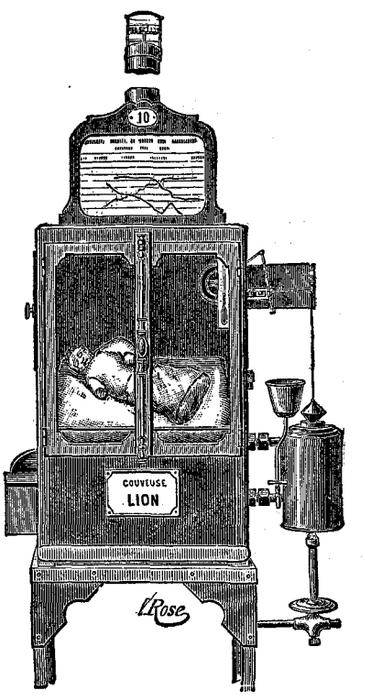
"Yes, there was the sinking of the *Drummond Castle*. Had the lighthouse off Ushant possessed a transmitter and the waves been able to be seen by a receiving-machine on board, those in command of the vessel would have been warned of approaching danger, signals could speedily have been made, and there would certainly have been less probability of so terrible a catastrophe. The fog would not have proved an obstacle to the experiments, altho a semaphore would have been practically useless."

Finally, the inventor gives the following forecast of the use of his apparatus in time of war:

"I will try and enumerate a few of the possibilities in military operations. Let us imagine a small detachment of Europeans, say, during one of these frontier wars, stationed in a rather lonely spot. They of course set up telegraphic communication with wires, by means of which they can learn the movements of the rest of their party, and report on their own. So far all is well, but the enemy is not likely to allow this state of things to continue, and one night the little band is surrounded, the wires are cut down, and the whites are at the mercy of their dusky foes. They can not communicate with the others, their provisions run short, as does possibly the ammunition. Frequently this results in fatalities, and all the time there is help at hand if only some way of enlisting it could be arrived at. Now with the new system there would be nothing to notify to the enemy that these small outlying parties were in communication with the main body, and all the time the electric waves are in use, and perhaps ten miles off they are anxiously reading, by the ticking of the receiver, messages of paramount importance. It will be possible to communicate with besieged fortresses, and indeed to use it in many ways in field operations, where it is impossible to lay telegraph wires. There is sometimes difficulty in bringing the hospital at the base into speedy enough communication with the front; or again, commanding officers are hard put to find a mode of quickly giving their instructions to their seconds. Wireless telegraphy is a possibility anywhere, and it will, I think, soon be a reality in many places."

BABY-INCUBATORS.

THE so-called "incubators" for keeping weak and puny infants alive by insuring absolutely uniform temperature have been known and used for many years, but there has been a notable increase of interest in them in this country because of the recent introduction of an improved form from France. This is described in *The Humanitarian* (New York), by Maud Rodney, as follows:



INCUBATOR.

"A human baby is almost the most helpless and defenseless creature in the world. The young of most animals are able to look out for themselves to some extent, but unless helped by some one else the human baby is bound to perish.

"In France a great many babies are born so weak and puny that they can not be raised even with the most tender care their parents can give them. They are so frail that the slightest change in the amount of heat or cold to which they are exposed, or the slightest impurity in the air they breathe, brings a quick end to their poor little lives. The population of France, instead of increasing or staying at the same number, as is the case in most other countries, began to grow rapidly smaller. It became a serious matter and it became important to save the lives of the little babies of which so great a number were dying, because they were too weak to live through the early days of their lives. So the doctors turned their attention to the matter, and one of them, Dr. Lion, invented an incubator which does for the baby what 'the artificial mother' does for the little chicken who has just pecked his way through the egg-shell. He made many experiments before he was at last able to provide the pure air and the even warmth which is needed to keep the weak baby alive. The picture on this page shows the incubator just as it is used to-day in many places in France and in two places in New York City.

"The case is made of metal, as that was found to be the best material, because it furnishes no hiding-places for microbes or injurious dust. In the front are glass doors, through which one may see the baby inside, as shown in the picture. The warm air comes from a furnace. At the Lion Institutes in New York there are about thirty of these incubators, each one occupied by a little baby, who remains under the care of this mechanical mother and the nurses and doctors, who watch the incubators day and night until the baby has become big enough and strong enough to be

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taken care of in the same way as other babies are who were not in the first place too weak to stand changes of temperature.

"The incubators are ranged around the sides of a large room, which is itself kept at the usual degree of heat. At the end of this room is another, called the nursery, and it is here that the babies are dressed and undressed and bathed and fed. It is separated from the room where the incubators are by glass doors, and in the nursery the warmth is the same as in the incubators themselves. When a baby is to be fed, one of the nurses opens the door of the incubator, lifts the baby out, throws a light cloth over its face so it will not take cold on the way, and hurries quickly to the nursery. Each baby is fed, usually from a nursing-bottle, once every two hours, and every time it is fed it is weighed, because the gain or loss of weight tells the doctor whether the baby is getting stronger or weaker. . . . . .

"Into each incubator runs a small pipe, which brings heated air from the large pipe which connects with the furnace. This air is filtered. it passes into the incubator and out through the pipe which you see at the top of the picture, so that the baby is always breathing pure, warm air, and is surrounded by air which always has just the same degree of warmth. At the top of the incubator you will see a sort of chart or map. On this the nurse puts down the baby's weight every day, and by it the doctor can tell at a glance just how much the baby has been gaining or losing."

CLOTH FROM PINEAPPLE LEAVES.

RECENT experiments under government auspices indicate that the fiber of the pineapple plant is valuable for textile purposes, and as the pineapple can be cultivated in Florida we may have here a noteworthy addition to our industrial crops. The subject is thus treated in the recent "Catalog of the Useful Fiber Plants of the World" published by the United States Department of Agriculture. Our quotations are from an abstract made for *The Scientific American Supplement*, which says:

"Indications are that the fiber of the pineapple leaf will eventually take prominent place among the constituents of textile fabrics.

"Both the wild and cultivated pineapple yield fiber which, when spun, surpasses in strength, fineness, and luster those obtained from flax; can be employed as a substitute for silk, and as a material for mixing with wool or cotton. Useful for cordage, textile fabrics, sewing silk or twist, laces, etc. In China, fabrics for clothing for agriculturists. In request in India as material for stringing necklaces. Produces the celebrated pina cloth of the Philippine Islands. It is remarkably durable, and unaffected by immersion in water; and is white, soft, silky, flexible, and long in staple. Samples cleaned, without washing, in the government experiments in Florida, 1892, when twisted to the size of binding twine, showed a breakage strain of 150 pounds. Dr. Taylor subdivided a specimen of this fiber to one ten-thousandth of an inch. . . . . .

"As to the value of the fiber, a London quotation for a lot of well cleaned from an Asiatic source was $150 per ton. There is no doubt that if the fiber could be produced in quantity at an economical cost, manufacturers would soon find a use for it and would know what price they could afford to pay for it. The market price would then be fixed by the demand and supply. The machine question enters largely into the problem, however, and as the leaves are small, a quantity would need to be cleaned at one feeding of the machine to make it pay. Estimating ten leaves to the pound, there would be over 22,000 leaves to the ton, which, as we have seen, would produce from 50 to 60 pounds of fiber.

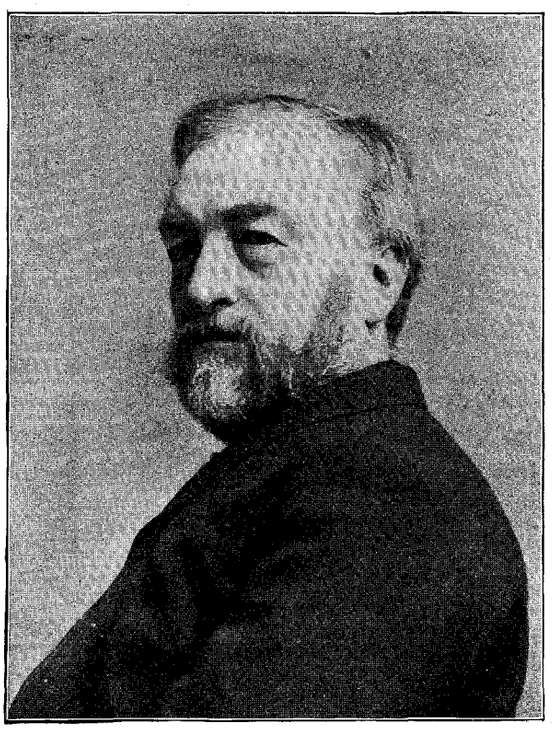
The possibilities of the product may be imagined from the following account of what is already done with it in China:

"The Chinese extract the fiber by hand. The first step is the removal of the fleshy sides of the leaf. A man sitting astride a narrow stool extends on it in front of him a single leaf, one end of which is held beneath him. He then, with a kind of two-handled bamboo plane, removes the succulent matter. Another man receives the leaves as they are planed, and with his thumb-nail loosens the fibers about the middle of the leaf, gathers them in his hand, and by one effort detaches them from the outer skin. The fibers are next steeped in water, washed and laid out to dry, and bleached on rude frames of split bamboo. The processes of steeping, washing, and exposing to the sun are repeated until the fibers are considered properly bleached. In the Philippines the blunt end of a potsherd is used, and the fiber is carefully combed and sorted into four classes.

"The Chinese fiber is manufactured into a strong, coarse fabric resembling the coarser kinds of grass cloth. In Formosa its chief use is for the inner garments of the agricultural class. The fabric is called Huang-li-pu. Pina is considered to be more delicate in texture than any other known to the vegetable kingdom. It is woven from the untwisted fibers of the pineapple leaf after reducing them to extreme fineness and after the ends have been glued together to form a continuous thread. There is another delicate fabric, used for ladies' dresses, which is said to be manufactured from pineapple fiber woven with silk, the latter forming lustrous stripes in soft colors or shades."

THE STORY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

THE purposes and work of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington are not so widely understood throughout the country as they should be. People generally know vaguely that the Institution is connected with the Government and that it has to do with science; but that is about all. It was therefore a



PROF. S. P. LANGLEY.

happy idea for the authorities of the Smithsonian to issue a volume giving the story of its foundation and of its work for the fifty years (1846-96) of its existence. This volume contains 856 pages on different phases of the general subject, contributed by men of recognized scientific authority. We quote the following paragraphs from a review of the book in the New York *Tribune*. Of the origin of the Institution and of its founder that journal says:

"James Smithson was the son of an English widow of high rank, Elizabeth Keate Macie; and if his father, Hugh Smithson, had kept his pledges of marriage to her, instead of contracting a matrimonial alliance with the great house of Percy and thus becoming a Duke of Northumberland, there would have been no

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occasion for this history. James Smithson is credited with having said, with a bitterness that can easily be understood: 'The best blood of England flows in my veins. On my father's side I am a Northumberland, on my mother's I am related to kings; but this avails me not. My name shall live in the memory of man when the titles of the Northumberlands and the Percys are extinct and forgotten.'

"The young man, known at first as Macie, but afterward authorized by Parliament to adopt his father's surname, was graduated from Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1786, and soon showed so much interest in science that he became a Fellow of the Royal Society. . . . The bulk of his property was derived, through his mother, from one of her sons by a former marriage. None of it came from his father's family. His will, after making various small bequests, directed that his fortune should go to a nephew, and if that nephew should have children they should inherit in due season. Otherwise, the United States Government was to be his legatee, and the property should be devoted to the founding, in Washington, of an establishment, under the name of Smithsonian Institution, 'for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men.' Smithson did not marry. His death occurred in 1829. The nephew survived until 1835, and died without issue."

The money that thus came into the possession of the Government was only half a million dollars, which to-day seems like a beggarly legacy for the founding of a great government institution. Even with accumulated interest and one or two additional bequests the Institution has at its disposal the interest of only one million dollars "to increase and diffuse knowledge," but this has been managed with a wisdom that puts to shame those that doubt the ability of a government to administer an educational trust. Smithson's own statement of the purposes of his Institution was vague—perhaps purposely so. It has been interpreted conservatively and with special view to the economy necessitated by the relative smallness of the bequest. Some of the work undertaken by the Institution is outlined in the following paragraphs:

"Not first historically, but perhaps foremost in importance, in the work of the Smithsonian Institution, was the creation of its great National Museum and the organization of a Bureau of Ethnology. Various expeditions under government auspices to survey the Mexican boundary and possible routes for the Pacific railroads were sent out during the first decade of the Institution's existence. . . . Very early in the fifties Thaddeus Culbertson found remains of extinct species of animals in that wonderful deposit up at the headwaters of the Missouri, and thus paved the way for the historic paleontological discoveries of Leidy, Marsh, Cope, Osborn, and Scott.

"Then there were famous explorations of Indian mounds and monuments in the Mississippi Valley and Wisconsin by Squier, Davis, and Lapham; and two or three Arctic expeditions went out from this country during the first twenty years of the Smithsonian's history. From all of these and from kindred sources there poured into Washington an immense quantity of minerals, fossils, specimens of existing, but then newly discovered, types of plant, insect, snake, fish, bird or mammal, prehistoric human remains, and other valuable material."

When the Institution's own building proved inadequate for housing these, a special building was erected for the purpose and became what is now known as the National Museum. To quote again:

"The explorations of the Geological Survey, officially organized in 1871, and entrusted to Major J. W. Powell, under the control of the Smithsonian Institution, were at first geographical and geological, but eventually they were largely devoted to a study of the language, implements, and customs of the various Indian tribes of North America. The official status of the survey has changed from time to time, and in 1893 Major Powell resigned the directorship. But the ethnological work done by this branch of the Government has at all times been under the supervision of the Institution, and Major Powell retained his connection with it even after he gave up the Geological Survey. With the assistance of Dr. W J McGee and other collaborators he has made valuable additions to the store of human knowledge regarding the American Indian."

Other features of the Smithsonian's work are described as follows:

"One of the Smithsonian's chief methods of diffusing information has been the publication of three classes of literature—original papers submitted to (and often invited by) the Institution, giving the results of scientific research by Americans; summaries of the most important papers published abroad and revealing real progress and various bibliographies of different sciences, and catalogs of specimens. The Smithsonian 'Contributions' and 'Reports' for the last fifty years constitute a library of incalculable worth.

"Another feature of the Institution's work which has proved immensely useful in realizing James Smithson's wishes is its elaborate system of distribution and exchange. Not only its own publications, but numerous government reports and documents printed by scientific societies and colleges have been sent abroad to representatives of foreign educational institutions and libraries; and literature, instruments, and specimens, sent from abroad to American investigators, collectors, and schools have been sent to their destinations by the same agency, usually without charge."

It should not be forgotten, too, that the Institution possesses a valuable library, now practically a part of the Congressional Library, that it initiated the botanical work now controlled by the Department of Agriculture, and that it began the investigations into the phenomena of storms that have borne fruit in the Weather Bureau.

During the half-century of the Institution's existence the office of secretary—its executive head—has been filled by but three men: Joseph Henry, its organizer, the eminent electrician, who served from 1846 till 1878; Spencer F. Baird, the naturalist (1878-87), and Prof. S. P. Langley, well known for his researches in physical astronomy and latterly in aeronautics, who is now in office. The Institution has therefore been happy not only in the character of its work, but in the eminence of the men who have directed it, and its reputation and authority have been quite out of proportion to the money spent in its support.

A CONNECTICUT MYSTERY.

THE mysterious subterranean noises that have made the village of Moodus, Conn., famous since the time of the first white settlers have, it is stated by the daily press, begun again, after a silence of twelve years. The noises are attributed by geologists to disturbances in the earth's crust, but their exact nature is enough of a mystery to justify the use of that word in our title. Of the "noises" *The Scientific American* speaks as follows:

"For twenty years, up to 1729, the villagers of the town of East Haddam heard these noises almost continuously. The Rev. Mr. Hosmer, in a letter written August 13, 1729, says, in speaking of the phenomenon: 'Whether it be fire or air distressed in the subterranean caverns of the earth can not be known; for there is no eruption, no explosion perceptible, but by sounds and tremors, which are sometimes very fearful and dreadful. I have myself heard eight or ten sounds successively, and imitating small arms, in the space of five minutes. I have, I suppose, heard several hundreds of them within twenty years; some more, some less terrible. Sometimes we have heard them almost every day, and great numbers of them in the space of a year. Oftentimes I have observed them coming down from the north, imitating slow thunder, until the sound came near or right under, and then there seemed to be a breaking like the noise of a cannon shot or severe thunder, which shakes the houses and all that is in them.'

"The center from which the noises proceed seems to be Mount Tom, situated at the junction of Moodus and Salmon rivers. The severest shocks have been felt as far northeast as Boston and as far southwest as New York, and have there been noticed as earthquakes. In 1816 and 1817 these noises were more than usually loud. On the recent recurrence there was a sound resembling a clap of thunder, followed for a couple of hours by a roar like the echoes of a distant cataract. A day later there was heard a

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crashing sound like that of heavy muffled thunder, and a roar not unlike the wind in a tempest. The ground was so shaken as to cause houses to tremble and crockery to rattle as tho an earthquake were in progress.

"The Indians, familiar with these noises long before the advent of the whites among them, called the region now embraced in the town of East Haddam, and particularly that situated in the vicinity of Mount Tom, Matchemâdoset, or 'at the place of bad noises.' This name, corrupted and contracted to Machamoodus, and finally to Moodus, gives name to a branch of Salmon River and to a manufacturing village. The region where these subterranean disturbances have occurred from time immemorial is one of deformed crystalline rock."

EXPERT SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF HANDWRITING.

THE details and minutiæ of detective work are nowhere worked out more scientifically than in France, and perhaps the one man who has made a closer study of them than any one else—at least in certain directions—is Alphonse Bertillon, the inventor of the system of identification by anthropometric measurement that is now used all over the world. In the *Revue Scientifique* (December 18 and January 1) M. Bertillon writes of the principles and methods of expert comparison of handwriting, as practised in the police department at Paris. It is evidently to be desired, says M. Bertillon, that every graphical investigation should rest on observations sufficient in number and quality to calculate the elements of variability in the handwriting of different individuals and of fixity in that of the same individual at different times according to the same method that has been so successfully followed for fifteen years past in identification by anthropometrical measurement. Such investigation should not be limited to the morphological details of each letter, but should extend to the general aspect of the handwriting. Thus we must know the average inclination, measured in degrees, of letters with a loop, such as *l*, *f*, *g*, *p*, *d*, and that of letters without a loop, like *i*, *a*, *e*, etc.; also, what is the average height of looped letters, both absolutely and in relation to the letters without a loop. We must be able to appreciate exactly, and even to express numerically, the manner in which spaces follow one another, the alinement of letters with relation to one another in the same word, and, finally, the correlation of these different characteristics; that is the degree in which one form of letter tends to bring with it a certain other form. These correlations have been the subject of special studies, like that of M. Jules Héricourt, who, M. Bertillon tells us, divides all handwriting into what he calls "sinistrogyres" and "dextrogyres." In the former the pen moves always toward the right; in the latter it seems to be continually striving to turn back to the left. Our police records probably could furnish a perfect mine of documents on which to base such a scientific study, but at present M. Bertillon regards graphology as a twin-sister of phrenology. But, he adds, all sciences have begun in magic; chemistry in alchemy, astronomy in astrology; and phrenology has led to craniometry, which has conducted us to judicial anthropometry. It would not be astonishing if graphology should follow the same course of evolution and in the end contribute to the triumph of graphical identification. He continues:

"It is important to take account of public opinion in the matter of handwriting, and to acknowledge that people are right in thinking that they are in some degree competent to decide about it. Who is not capable, for example, of recognizing the hand of one of his friends at the first glance on an envelope? But, on the other hand, each of us has remarked that his own writing may change several times a day under a variety of influences, to such a degree that it seems to be unrecognizable. This is only an illusion, as the constituent elements of the letters remain the same. The proof of this is the fact that this same hand that the writer believes to be so altered by fatigue, emotion, or other cause, will be identified by a habitual correspondent with no difficulty.

"But try the inverse problem. Choose at haphazard two lines of your own writing, written yesterday, or a day or a month previous, and try to rewrite them, imitating them very exactly. You will be astonished at the awkwardness of your imitation, which will have all the characteristics of a forgery: hesitation, trembling, deviation, etc. Begin again, try it over three or four times—the result will be no better.

"Thus a forgery by copying a piece of writing (that is, without having recourse to tracing directly from it) is so difficult, so impossible, that each of us is incapable of imitating his own handwriting and of reproducing exactly what he has already written. Practically this arises from the fact that while the writer is looking at the model that he is trying to copy, the point of his pen either makes a wrong stroke or stops and hesitates. In tracing, because of the lines directly underneath the pen, the writer can look simultaneously at the copy and at the point of his pen. This is the sole practical means of imitating a text of any length. This it was that, perfected with ingenuity, assured the momentary success of the forged will of M. de La Boussinière [a celebrated French case]."

M. Bertillon here gives us a catalog of some of the branches of study that it is necessary for a real expert in handwriting to take up. He must understand the exact influence of the position of body, hand, fingers, and pen; and he must be familiar with every style of writing of every epoch. Here our author pauses to condemn all the present methods of teaching writing. Modern lithographed "copies," he says, are almost universally awkward and have to be forgotten when they are learned. The expert must also know the relations of writing to pathology, physiology, ophthalmology, and mental science, and he must also be thoroughly familiar with papers, inks, pencils, and with all the many methods of erasure or discoloration, which involves a wide knowledge of chemistry. He must also be a police officer—that is, he must "know criminals, their thoughts and their tricks."

The sole direction in which progress has been made by modern experts, says M. Bertillon, is in the application of photography and photomicrography. The method of identification now followed by the police consists principally in multiplying points of comparison by rendering them at once more easily comparable, more exact, and less personal. The first thing is to obtain authentic specimens of the handwriting of the suspected person. The two kinds of documents, authentic and suspected, are first photographed. The latter are then cut into as many separate pieces as they contain words. These words, arranged in alphabetical order, are then placed in vertical columns on a great card 40 centimeters [16 inches square], glued to the card and numbered. The photographs of both kinds of documents are then cut up likewise and each word is pasted separately on a small card—the authentic on blue, for instance, and the suspected on red. All are then rearranged alphabetically. All the words common to the two kinds of documents are thus brought together and their comparison is facilitated. The mixture of the two also brings together words that have only the first syllable in common and those that begin with the same letter. The words having been studied in this order, they may now be rearranged in any other way that suits the expert.

M. Bertillon tells us, among other things, that an exact or geometrical likeness between two syllables in the two documents is regarded as more suspicious than a decided difference. A person rarely writes two syllables exactly alike, so that geometrical likeness furnishes a presumption of forgery. Finally, the writer enters a protest against the supposition that an expert can mathematically demonstrate the identity or non-identity of two hands entirely apart from the facts of the case. The presumption that he can do so, and the "judicial tradition" that he ought to be

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ignorant of the facts in order to give his unbiased opinion, are responsible, he says, for some very queer results.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Automatic Window Shades.—"What is probably the latest development in automatics," says *Electricity*, "is a sun-blind recently introduced by a Berlin firm. As soon as the sun shines on the room or window to be protected the blind lets itself down, and when the sun 'goes in' the blind draws itself up again. Two glass bulbs are connected by a U-tube partially filled with mercury. A platinum wire melted into the glass makes contact with the mercury at the bend of the tube, and there are also platinum contact wires brought into the sides of the tube, one of which is in contact with the mercury only when it stands level on the two sides, and the other only when the mercury in one side of the tube rises. One of the bulbs contains only air, the other is filled with black wool. When no sun is out the air in the two bulbs occupies the same volume, and the mercury stands at equal heights in both legs of the tube; but when the sun is shining, the bulb with the black wool absorbs the sun's rays, and causes the mercury to rise in the opposite side of the tube. This closes the circuit of a motor which lets down the blind, an automatic switch switching off the current as soon as the blind gets to the end of its range, and reversing the connections of the motor so that it is ready to wind up the blind as soon as the other contact in the tube is made. When the blind reaches the top the current is again switched off, and the connections are reversed at the switch."

Silk from Cotton.—"It is a classic joke," says the *Chronique Industrielle*, as quoted in *Cosmos* (January 22), "to say, in speaking of silk of poor quality, that it is 'half silk and all cotton'; but this it appears, is in a fair way to be actually realized, as a cotton fiber can be changed into a silky thread that has exactly the same durable brilliancy as a thread of real silk. The operation that the cotton undergoes to bring about this result is called 'mercerization' under tension. This odd word is derived from the name of the inventor of the process in its primitive form. About fifty years ago a French chemist named Mercer showed that cotton, when subjected to the action of concentrated acids or alkalies, contracts and has a greater affinity for mordants and dyes; but it is only recently that it has been known that this 'mercerization' gives also a brilliant luster to the cotton that undergoes it. The process was then improved; the cotton was stretched violently during the mercerization, and when an energetic rubbing was added to the tension the tissue received a permanent luster. It thus can replace silk."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Serum Treatment of Burns.—Extensive burns are treated by Dr. Tomasoli, an Italian specialist, by the injection of an artificial serum composed of a solution of sodium chlorid (common salt) and sodium bicarbonate (cooking soda). In the case of a young man who had been burned over the entire right side of the chest, and over the whole right arm, shoulder, back, and buttock, injections of this solution daily for three weeks brought about recovery. Experiments on animals were also very successful. Tomasoli states in the *Monatsschrift für praktische Dermatologie* that serum from a scalded dog will kill a well one if injected into his veins, but that the fatal result can be prevented by a second injection of the artificial serum just described.

Are There Seas on the Planet Mars?—"In the work of M. Flammarion on 'The Planet Mars,'" says *Ciel et Terre*, "is found a calculation of the astronomer Phillips, of Oxford, regarding the possibility of the reflection by the Martian seas of the sun's image as a luminous point that could be seen from the earth. According to this calculation the image thus reflected would measure $\frac{1}{20}$ of a second, and in an instrument magnifying three hundred times it would be fifteen seconds. Phillips thought that if the gray patches were really seas, we ought to perceive, from time to time, an image of this kind. In the same work is found a discussion of the same question by Schiaparelli, who concludes that the solar image reflected by the Martian water would have a diameter of $\frac{1}{24}$ of a second, which does not differ greatly from the preceding result. Thus it would shine like a brilliant star of the third magnitude. It would be less brilliant, but no less luminous, in case the sea were agitated. A Yorkshire astronomer, Mr. Taylor, has recently treated the subject anew before the Royal Astronomical Society of London, and has made fresh computations. According to Mr. Pickering, the reflecting power of the planet Mars is only quarter of that of Saturn. If we call that of Saturn the same as that of newly fallen snow, that is, 0.78, that of Mars would be 0.17. Mr. Taylor calls it 0.24. A formula gives him $\frac{1}{40}$ for the ratio of the intensity of the solar reflection in a water-surface on Mars and the total brilliancy of the whole Martian disk. This solar image . . . ought to be easily visible from here, even in the canals, if they were composed entirely of water. Mr. Taylor adds that from the Cimmerian Sea to the Gulf of Aurora there is a series of seas perfectly situated for reflecting the noonday sun toward us. But nothing of the kind has ever been noticed. The author therefore concludes that this proves the non-existence of Martian seas. He adds that the weight of proof is in favor of plains of vegetation whose tint varies according to the quantity of moisture that reaches them after the summer melting of the polar snows. He ends by adopting the opinion of M. Ledger, that the canals are not full of water (this idea was given up long ago), and that their lines mark regions cultivated by the inhabitants of Mars, principally in the districts that adjoin great centers of population (the 'oases'). To sum up, we can not see anywhere on the globe of Mars the water that fertilizes it."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

A NOTEWORTHY contribution to the study of the unity of the human species is made by the Marquis de Nadaillac in a recent article in the *Revue des Questions Scientifiques*. "He points out," says *Science*, "the unending similarities in implements, arts, funeral rites, and religious symbols in tribes of like stages of culture in all times and places. That these are proofs of psychic identity there can be no doubt. But it is not quite clear how the author interprets them. In some passages he speaks of such customs and inventions being 'handed down from unknown ancestors by generation to generation'; while elsewhere he says the solution lies 'in the identity of the mind of man in all periods and in all regions.' The latter is the position which is most acceptable to the trained ethnologist."

IT has long been known by physicists that iron alters in length when magnetized. This phenomenon is made the subject of a special study by Professor Brackett, of Princeton, in *The Physical Review*, December. The author treats specially of the effects of tension and of the quality of the metal upon such changes in length in iron wires, and he describes researches made by him at the suggestion of Professor Rowland, of Johns Hopkins University. Professor Brackett believes that the investigation has established the following laws: "Any increase in the magnetic induction tends to lengthen the iron wire; the magnetizing field tends to shorten the wire, and the shortening due to this cause apparently has no limit; the elasticity changes with the induction . . . but the law of the change is unknown further than that elasticity changes only as the induction changes."

A GOVERNMENT board has finally rejected the celebrated "multicharge gun," which has been in process of testing for so many years. The principle of this gun depended on the successive discharge of a number of "pockets" of explosives along the course of the projectile from breech to muzzle, thus continually accelerating its speed. But now, according to the experts, smokeless powder produces the same effect more simply. Says *The American Machinist:* "On testing the 8-inch Haskell multicharge gun in February last, by the Board of Ordnance and Fortification of the War Department, only two rounds were fired, and at the second round the metal between the forward pocket and the bore was found to have been crushed in; this rendered the gun unserviceable. The Board has declined to make a recommendation for any further expenditure on multicharge guns, believing, as it does, that smokeless powder has in a great measure obviated the necessity for the multicharge gun."

FELT mats for rails were exhibited at Leipsic last summer by the Adlerhof Felt Works, near Berlin. These, says *The Scientific American Supplement*, "are not intended to protect the rails against catching cold, but to protect the public from the noise and clatter of the traffic on street railways. They are especially recommended for crossings and bridges, but would be a boon everywhere along the track, and it may be that they really spare the rails, as the manufacturers claim. The mats are made of strong wool, which is thoroughly impregnated with oils, then superficially coated with glue, which has been rendered insoluble by the addition of sodium bichromate and formaldehyde, and then very highly compressed as to form plates from a third of an inch to several inches in thickness and of various sizes. The surface is said to be so hard, and yet elastic, that a rail may be placed on such a piece of matting without cutting into it. If the noise of engine-rooms and workshops can be reduced by placing the mats under the bed-plates, bearings between the joists, etc., people would probably neither mind the absurd name, iron felt, nor the possibly not too moderate price. But engineers will, perhaps, prefer to wait till they can ascertain how long the felt will keep its elasticity. The preparation prevents rotting."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

INFLUENCE OF RELIGION ON SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGE.

MOST general readers are aware that Karl Marx, the well-known writer on socialism, propounded some years ago the theory that the entire development of the human mind has been dependent upon the means of subsistence of the human race, that is, upon the economic conditions of existence. This theory sees in human development nothing but a question of bodily nourishment. Krause, a follower of Marx, applied this theory, about two years ago, to human history, claiming that the causes of all social changes and political revolution must be sought, not in the brains of men, in their increasing perception of eternal truth and eternal justice, but in changes in the mode of production and exchange; not in philosophy and religion, but in the economics of the periods in which these changes and revolutions took place. Toward the end of last year, Professor Labriola, of the University of Rome, in a book which is now being much read and commented on in Europe, defended this application of Marx's theory to history.

A review of the professor's book appears in the *Revue Critique* (Paris, December). His views are combated with great force and even eloquence, the *Revue* dwelling specially and appositely on religious wars as refuting the theory put forth, it being apparent that an attack on religious motives as a defense in war is an attack on religion itself. The *Revue* says:

"The professor explains the Reformation as 'an economic rebellion of German nationality (or rather of the middle classes) against the attempt of the papal court to make money out of them.' If this explanation be true, it must be true in regard to every country to which the Reformation extended: in France, the Low Countries, England, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, among the Saxons and Hungarians of Transylvania. In all these countries the wars of the Reformation must have been brought about by the revolt of the middle classes (the *bourgeoisie*) against the Roman curia. Now, the fact is that all the countries named were more or less withdrawn from the Roman authority, and the Reformation spread among them solely because its doctrine suited the mind of all or a part of the population. The Low Countries certainly did not revolt, like Germany, in order to adopt the new faith. A portion of the Low Countries adopted it without any strife, and the strife did not break out until Philip II. desired to introduce into his dominions administrative absolutism and religious intolerance. Belgium, altho Roman Catholic, joined Holland in order to defend its rights against the usurpations of Spain. When Philip II. found himself obliged to recognize administrative autonomy in the revolted provinces, Belgium submitted while Holland continued the war. The economic motive, financial oppression, had everywhere disappeared. Why did not Holland lay down her arms also? Because she had to defend her faith, her new religion, which had caused her to suffer first most cruel persecutions, and then a frightful war, in order not to abandon a creed which she believed to be true, and from which she expected salvation. How is it possible to reduce the resistance of Holland to the King of Spain to an economic substratum? This is something which neither Professor Labriola nor any of those who coincide in his views have demonstrated or will ever be able to demonstrate. The same is true of the extension of the Reformation to France, where a part only of the middle classes adopted it, and that part was obliged to make war on another part of the middle classes which did not adopt it. What was the economic motive which cut in two the French middle classes in relation to the Reformation? Is the Massacre of St. Bartholomew explainable by motives of economic order or by an exaltation of religious passion? So likewise with the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Was that measure, so disastrous for the prosperity of France, inspired by our economic interest, or by religious scruples? To all these questions and to a host of others, the theory which Labriola defends must give clear and precise answers, and such answers it has not given and can not give.

"We have dealt so far with wars of which religion was the principal cause, in order to defend religion against the theory which seeks, in fact, to prove that there is no religious instinct in man. Let us go on a little further in the same course.

"The French Protestants who were obliged, in consequence of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, to abandon their position, their property, and their country, in order to preserve their religion, did they obey an impulse of economic order? Can the emancipation of slaves in different countries of Europe, the War of Secession in the United States, the history of the Jews in the Middle Ages, be explained by production and the exchange of wealth? Assuredly it was not a material interest which urged the Jews obstinately to refuse to change their religion, which caused them to suffer most cruel persecutions, unless they abandoned the creed of their ancestors, a creed which was the cause of all their troubles. 'When the English,' says the historian Green, 'revolted against James II., there was something which was dearer to them than freedom of speech, security of property, and even personal liberty; that, to use the language of the time, was the Gospel.'

"We believe that this theory, which tries to reduce human life in its entirety to economics, is absolutely erroneous. Man is urged by his nature to satisfy several needs, each entirely independent of the others, altho in mutual relation and capable of being mutually influenced. The need of self-preservation (economics), the need of preservation of the species (procreation), that of knowing truth (the scientific tendency), that of penetrating the mystery of the universe (religion and metaphysical tendency), that of admiring beautiful things (esthetics), that of sharing acquisitions made over nature conformably to a principle other than that of the strongest (morality and justice)—all these fundamental instincts of our nature are not derived one from the others or any of them. They have been put there by the power which created us as parts of the constitution of our nature. One does not explain another, for none of them can be explained. If the economic need was the producing cause of the others, we do not see why the animals, who have as strong a desire for self-preservation as man, do not possess also the superior forms of life and intelligence. If the answer be that it is the constitution of their being which prevents the animals from possessing the other manifestations of intellectual life, that answer is an admission that the latter are not the result of the economic need and that they are due to the natural constitution of the human being. If these forms are in their origin independent of the economic needs, their development must be also."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

MR. STEAD'S "BEST HOPE" FOR THE CHURCHES.

MR. WILLIAM T. STEAD, the well-known journalist of London, is about to institute a new hunt for facts which will establish religious faith upon a scientific foundation. It is pretty generally known that Mr. Stead has for years been an interested student of psychic phenomena, and has, among his other ventures, been publishing a quarterly called *Borderland* devoted to such study. He has now suspended the publication of this magazine; but he asserts that he does so, not because he has lost interest in the "invisible world around us," but because he is more anxious than ever "to get forward in the ascertainment of the facts governing" that world. We quote from his statement:

"I have suspended the journal, because I believe in it more than ever, and because I have a confident expectation that after the period of suspension we shall be able to come back bearing proofs that will confound the most obstinate skeptic in the materialistic ranks.

"The time is coming when all the churches will recognize that in this obscure and much ridiculed field of investigation lies their best hope of reestablishing on scientific foundation the faith which materialistic science has succeeded, not in shattering, but in shaking. The old faith will be built up more strongly than ever, but some of the old foundations have moldered away under the corroding influences of modern science.

"I hope I shall in the future be able to make more progress in

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spiritual investigation than I have been able to record in the past. Those who are sufficiently psychic to conduct such an inquiry are numerous, no doubt; for the sixth sense seems to be possessed by everybody, altho in infinitely varying degrees of development. But those who are developed sufficiently to observe phenomena for themselves, without extraneous help, are seldom possessed of the scientific instinct. . . . . .

"The more we know of the mysterious realm that surrounds us the less ready are we to dogmatize. So marvelous are the things which we know to be true, so utterly at variance are they with everything that is ordinarily accepted as true by the ordinary world, that there is hardly anything that can be regarded as antecedently impossible. Hence, more than ever do I feel it necessary to hold the judgment in suspense, and, while admitting all things to be possible, recognize that very few things are certain, and that even those which seem to be most certainly true may be proved to be mistaken by a little more light and a little more experience. Of one thing only I am more absolutely convinced than ever, and that is that the ordinary limited materialistic view of man and of the world on which he lives are absolutely inadequate to account for what we know to be happening all the time. Whatever else may be true, the faith in which the majority of people live and die, which is based upon the assumption that there is nothing but matter, is absolutely and demonstrably false."

Mr. Stead has not, however, depended upon his own judgment in the matter of suspending the publication of *Borderland*. He does so in response to a communication from the invisible world, signed with the single name Julia. "I suspend my journal," says he, "because Julia has so decreed." And he gives us the communication in full, as follows:

"My Dearest Friend:—My heart is somewhat sad within me at the thought that this may be the last time for some months that I shall have the much-prized opportunity of communicating with my friends, whom I have so often addressed through the pages of your journal. It is now nearly four years since I began to write for them, and I have had much blessed evidence as to the help which my letters have given to many who had otherwise almost despaired.

"Now that for the present, and only for the present, my letters must cease. I feel more than ever impressed with the importance of insisting once more, more strongly than ever before, on the great truth that God is love, and that all who love really and truly are in God and He in them. I have said this many times. But you do not seem to realize how literally true it is and how absurd it will seem to you when you come over here and see how God has been kept out of your lives because of the lack of love in your hearts. There is nothing in all the world so true, so vital, so universal as this. Love and God are the same and, when, from any cause, you hate or do not love, to that extent you shut God out from your life.

"If I had only one message to give, this is the message—love.

"These messages which you have received at all times and seasons, of which possibly a hundredth part has been published, may, you suggest, have been due solely to your sub-consciousness, your other self. Your hand which has written things unknown to you which have occurred in the past, and which has written things as yet unknown to any one which have been fulfilled in the future, is moved not by me, but by some hitherto unknown segment of your soul. Well, you can take it so if you please. But you know, best of all, whether these communications, many of which ran directly counter to your own views, and all of which form a consistent whole with a distinct character and individuality of their own, did, or did not, emanate from your own mind. They certainly did not emanate from your conscious mind; and if you know nothing of their contents you know nothing of their origin. I, who know both, have always told you the same thing. I am your old friend on earth life who passed away some five years ago, and who has ever been with you to teach, to console, and to assist you in direction.

"Julia."

Another and longer communication from "Julia" on the same subject was received later, and this also Mr. Stead publishes. In it he is told something of the nature of the truth he will succeed in finding if he does not become discouraged:

"Now I do not think that you will find that what we have to tell you differs from what more intelligent and spiritual believers have arrived at or have received by inspiration. The fundamental principles are the same. We have nothing to tell you that was not known to the seers, and that was not declared by Jesus. But we have to tell you that the ideas which have been received, and are still taught by many churches, as to the future state of man, are simply not correct. They make you believe what is not true. And there is no doubt at all that if you succeed in your undertaking you will render these ideas quite unbelievable by any one.

"I want you to realize that the great established ruts in which the truth has embedded itself can not be destroyed without injuring for the time the truth itself. This is what I feel I must say to you. For there is so much danger that if you expect too much and forget the shadow, if you are impatient and forget the slow processes of nature, you may give it all up. And that would be a crime. I will tell you at once that the result would not be the abolition of the old belief in hell, for that is already abolished. People don't believe in the hell of fire any more, and they have by their recoil forgotten that there is a real hell, which will be revealed very clearly by you.

"The chief change will be to increase to a quite inconceivable extent the consciousness of the responsibility of life."

Still another letter from "Julia" gave Mr. Stead explicit directions how to proceed:

"I was told to retire into a darkened room, and there, alone with my thoughts, to summon around me the departed ones whose counsel I wished to have. I go from my literature to do this. I shut myself up to begin the building of the bridge between this world and the world of spirits. When I have bridged the abyss I will emerge from my retirement, and those who are qualified to receive enlightenment shall know the result."

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY AND "THE HAND OF ECCLESIASTICISM."

THE "Princeton Inn" has not yet disappeared from sight in the columns of the religious press. Owing to the protests aroused in church circles because of the relations of certain members of the faculty of Princeton University and certain members of the board of trustees to the Inn, the board of trustees took action a few weeks ago calling attention to a regulation forbidding students to frequent any place where intoxicating liquors are sold as a beverage or to bring into their rooms or into the college either spirituous or fermented beverages. On December 27, the president and dean of the university sent notice of this action to the parents of the students, soliciting their cooperation in carrying this rule into effect. This action, and the reported intention to close up the grill-room of the Inn, in the near future, seemed to quiet the storm of protest that has been aroused. An utterance made by President Patton, however, at the alumni dinner in New York City January 20, has to some extent stirred up a renewal of the criticism. At this dinner, Rev. Dr. Shields, who had signed the petition for a license, for the Inn and who had, in consequence of the criticism therefor from Presbyterian bodies, withdrawn from that church, was given an ovation by the alumni. This fact has apparently added to the resentment felt over the president's remarks. President Patton is reported to have spoken, in part, as follows:

"I am loyal to my church. I know the law and the constitution of my church, and I know that much of what has lately been quoted as the law of that church is not law and has no binding authority. But whether it has or not, I can not consent to have the law of that church, as such, imposed on Princeton University. The interests of Princeton are intrusted to the sacred keeping of twenty-seven men. They and their successors must make and administer their own law, and I, while I hold my place as the head of your alma mater, will do what in me lies to keep the hand of ecclesiasticism from resting on Princeton University."

The Observer (New York, Presb.) quotes the above portion of the address, and comments as follows:

"The recognition of the moral bond between Princeton and the

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Presbyterian Church is a happy one, but why this threat 'to keep the hand of ecclesiasticism from resting on Princeton University'? The Presbytery of New Brunswick and the General Assembly are the only bodies that could lay an 'ecclesiastical hand' on the men who are professors there—no hand of this character can touch the institution. The defense is uncalled for until the Presbytery or the Assembly acts, and neither is likely to move unless urged on to do so by the attitude of the friends of Princeton. This is a time for calm statements, not defiant ones. Princeton University is too dear to the heart of every Presbyterian to have a strained relation existing between brethren. The moral bond which Dr. Patton recognizes and extols exists, and in the opinion of many people is quite as strong as a legal bond. It is safe to infer that neither Princeton University nor Union Seminary would have

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received the large endowments which make them able to assert their independence, had not men and women of wealth believed in the binding force of the moral bond between them and the Presbyterian Church."

Another Presbyterian journal, *The Herald and Presbyter* (Cincinnati), comments as follows:

"What was meant by this can only be surmised. The hand of ecclesiasticism has not rested on Princeton so far as any one has observed. The presbytery of New Brunswick called to account one of its members who was under solemn ordination vows to study the peace and purity of the church, and who had so far disregarded those vows as to abet, and cooperate in, the evil of liquor-selling. Does Dr. Patton complain at a dinner of the action of his presbytery? It seems as tho the president of this University had thrown away an opportunity to vindicate himself and his institution, and has added to the heavy burden which has been resting upon it."

The Independent (undenom.) also takes up the subject and expresses its regret because of Dr. Patton's utterances:

"The Princeton Alumni dinner in this city, last week, was an ovation to Professor Shields. What was his merit? Simply that he had signed a petition for the license of the sale of intoxicating liquors in the Princeton Inn, and when he was criticized for it in presbyteries and synods he resigned from the Presbyterian ministry. We see nothing grand or creditable in that. It was also an ovation for President Patton; and he raised the cheers by declaring that Princeton University would hold itself independent of all ecclesiastical dictation, and that 'prohibition will not stop drinking in Princeton,' but 'will only increase the trade in corkscrews.' That is hardly a pretty way to talk to a crowd of young men over their champagne. If prohibition is so injurious why does the university renew its prohibition? We have had great respect for President Patton's ability and for his general wisdom since he became connected with Princeton; but this last speech of his will not help good morals. President Patton intimated that the pronouncement of the General Assembly on signing petitions for liquor license 'has no binding authority' and might be disobeyed. Very true, and so the pronouncements of the synods on the signatures of the Princeton professors were not authoritative and need not be resented. In each case the right of expressing an opinion was indulged, and a good right that is."

In *The Voice* (Proh.), which first brought public attention to the facts concerning the Princeton Inn, President Patton is also taken to task:

"He declared that he would resist all attempts at ecclesiastical control over the university. Does he mean by that that the Presbyterian Church shall exercise no control over its own preachers when, forsooth, one of those preachers is also a professor in the university? President Patton took an important part in the effort to induce the Presbyterian Church to discipline Professor Briggs, of Union Theological Seminary, because of the latter's views on biblical inspiration. How does it happen that because a preacher is a Princeton professor he is to be free to defy his church while the professor of a rival institution is not? Even if Professor Shields had had no connection with the Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian preachers the whole country over had a perfect right, just as W. C. T. Unions had, just as *The Voice* had, just as the religious press of the country had, to protest, in the name of public morals and the public welfare, against his action. But the fact that he was a preacher of that church, directly defying the utterances of the General Assembly, gave them a special right to protest. And that is all the church synods and presbyteries have done. They have not laid claim to any ecclesiastical authority over the university, its faculty, or its trustees. They have claimed the simple right, so far as the university is concerned, to petition and to protest."

The North and West (Presb., Minneapolis) criticizes another of the reported remarks made by President Patton in the same address:

"When, at the Princeton banquet in New York City last week, some of the alumni cheered Dr. Shields, only what might be expected occurred. Without doubt many fully approve of the drinking facilities that had been furnished at Princeton Inn. But if the reports are not misleading, President Patton could not well have spoken to worse effect than he did. He indorsed the graduates and condemned prohibition. He had only disapproval for those who have opposed all connection of the university with a drinking-place. But the climax of presidential folly was reached when he declared: 'Prohibition will not stop drinking in Princeton. It will only increase the sale of corkscrews.' If this does not mean that because there will be drinking there should be a university saloon, and that as the saloon there is closed, drinking in the rooms will not be greatly opposed, the reason for saying it does not appear. Opposition to an evil always calls out its full strength in increased activity. If on this account the evil is to be unopposed and even fostered, then penitentiaries are a social mistake and the bottomless pit a blunder in the divine administration of the universe."

PROPOSED METHODIST FEDERATION.

AMONG the divisions and estrangements occasioned by the issue of slavery, and the war which that question provoked, none has seemed, strangely enough, to heal more slowly than the divisions created among some of the great religious denominations of the country. The Presbyterian Church still remains divided along the lines of cleavage opened by the war, altho numerous attempts have been made to bring the sundered bodies into one harmonious whole again. Numerous conferences looking

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toward reunion have been held between delegations representing the Presbyterian Church North and the Presbyterian Church South, but up to this date no practical results have been achieved in this direction, nor is there an immediate promise of any. And up to a few weeks ago, the same general situation of affairs might have been said to prevail with respect to the two divisions of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States. Now, however, some definite action has been taken which makes it appear likely that the two great Methodist bodies will be brought into closer relations with each other, if not into an organic union. This action was the result of a meeting held in Washington, D. C., early in January by a joint commission made up of representatives of the Methodist Church South and the Methodist Church North, and appointed to formulate a plan for bringing the two bodies nearer together. The outcome of the deliberations of the commission was a plan of union containing the following recommendations and suggestions which will be submitted to the next General Conferences of the two churches for action:

1. That the General Conferences of the two churches be recommended to order the preparation of a common catechism, hymn-book, and order of public worship for both churches.

2. While recognizing the value and growth of the Epworth leagues of the respective churches, and rejoicing in the spirit of fraternity manifested in their biennial international conferences, yet the attention of the respective General Conferences is called to the International Epworth League Conference in the absence of any legal provision for it, and suggests to the General Conferences the propriety of recognizing and regulating it by legal provisions.

3. That the General Conferences of the respective churches be recommended to adopt measures for the joint administration of their publishing interests in China and Japan.

4. That while appreciating fully the Christian comity prevailing among our missions in foreign lands, and having given careful consideration to the principle and desirability of cooperative administration as a means of lessening the expenditure of funds in the prosecution of the work, the commission, without attempting to formulate any plan for such cooperation, commend the subject to the consideration of the General Conferences.

5. It was further agreed, for the prevention of hurtful competition, that in places where either church is established and supplying the needs of the people, new work shall not be organized by the other church without the consent of the bishop having jurisdiction.

6. In view of the many efforts made to give a purely secular direction to all forms of education, we are convinced that the time has arrived when greater attention should be given to higher education under Christian auspices than ever before, and when the church should feel its full responsibility for the wise and safe training of all its young people. We are approaching the close of the nineteenth century, and believe that our members should give some tangible expression of our gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the manifold blessings which have marked our progress.

Resolved, 1. This expression should take such practical form as will increase the efficiency of our higher institutions of learning.

2. That the years 1900 and 1901 should be the period for the presentation of the subject of higher education to all our people and of their gifts to the cause.

3. That it is the imperative duty of the Protestant Church to provide in the city of Washington a university, Christian, catholic, tolerant and American, having for its sole aim post-graduate and professional study and original research, and that the American university is worthy of the confidence and benefactions of the people in all our churches; we, therefore, recommend that the claims of this institution be commended to both churches for special contributions during the closing year of the present and the opening year of the coming century.

In editorial comment on these recommendations, *The Independent* says:

"There is nothing radical in these proposals. Perhaps they would not stand a chance of adoption, if there were. They commend themselves to the Christian common sense of these two great religious communities. They ought, of course, to be adopted. If they were, it would induce a better common understanding, and remove most of the present causes for friction. It is impossible for the Southern church to feel that the Northern body has an equally valid call with itself to establish churches in the South. No doubt in many instances it has planted white churches where there was really no need for them; where the field was already well occupied by Methodist churches of the episcopal order; where the new churches could not become self-supporting, and must be maintained by missionary and other funds raised in the North. In establishing colored churches the parent body has not come into competition with the Southern church, which many years ago set off its colored churches into an organization by themselves. Since the color-line has been drawn by the Northern church, there has been even less call for Northern white churches in the South. While federation, if adopted, will not necessarily remove these, it may operate to prevent any substantial increase of their number."

The Northwestern Christian Advocate comments briefly on the first five paragraphs in the proposed basis of union, reserving the sixth and last, that referring to education, for more lengthy and emphatic treatment. As for the first point, *The Advocate* thinks that for the present "the hymn-books are well enough as they are." Neither does it see that anything is to be gained by a revision of the catechism, and it asks the question why the third recommendation should be confined to mission work in Japan and China. In regard to the sixth paragraph and the resolutions following, *The Advocate* says:

"That paragraph should have the instant respect and obedience of the two Methodisms, South and North. We shall not marvel if several other American Methodist churches, whether 'Episcopal' or 'non,' become interested in the grand scheme of education shadowed forth. All Methodist branches will do well to consider and realize all possible wise schemes of immediate organized and consolidated university work. Again, it is old, and as true as old, to say that nearly all these branches have too many 'universities.' Each branch should organize its own plans, but they should be correlated to the plans of all other branches in certain respects. This is not a matter of choice. That correlation is already *forced upon American Wesleyanism!* If we are not to be left hopelessly in the rear, made ashamed, if not actually superseded, we must make the educational plans of which the many churches acting in combination, at points, are entirely capable, if wise men led. What a vista of reasonable and irresistible power and victory is thus outlined in the very statement! Each branch should have its own scheme of academy, seminary, and reorganized definite college work, while all branches amenable to the inevitable argument may face the problem of the higher education with results that will command the enduring respect of the secular world. We seriously suggest and urge that such reasonable and possible plans are the sole conditions upon which the church of Christ can stem the secular floods, whose menacing crests are within sight of the shores of the present emergency."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

IT is learned from *The Congregationalist* that the Ministers' Alliance of Denver, at the suggestion of Rev. Dr. J. H. Ecob, has discussed and appointed a committee to consider plans for promoting a federation of churches in Colorado, corresponding to the one which is successfully working in Maine.

BAPTISM, as sometimes administered, is, in the opinion of *The Lancet*, by no means devoid of danger. It says: "We would impress upon the clergy the necessity of having the water warmed. Baptism, it is true, is seldom or never administered by immersion, but even when affusion is used the contact of cold water with a child's head might injuriously affect one with an already sufficiently low power of resistance."

"IN the new Polychrome Bible," says the New York *Tribune*, "the name of the Deity is given as Jhvh, this vowelless form being as near the original Hebrew as the English alphabet can express it. This reminds a writer in the Rochester *Post-Express* of a story told of the famous German professor, Ewald, who once inserted a parenthetical footnote to a prayer. Ewald was in the thick of a fight (such as scholars wage the one with the other) with the eminent Hebraist Gesenius, when he arose to pray in his classroom. And he began thus in slow, solemn voice: 'O thou great, omniscient, infinite "Jah,"' and then added, half to himself, 'not "Jehovah," as that fool Gesenius says.'"

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

THAT CHINESE LOAN.

RUMORS have been afloat for some time that England had successfully negotiated for the opening of several new ports in China, in consideration for a loan of $80,000,000 to the Chinese Government. It has also been said that the port of Ta-lien-wan, in the Liao-Tung peninsula, would be turned over to Great Britain. These reports are yet to be confirmed, and to judge from the opinions expressed by the non-British part of Europe, Great Britain has no support of other countries in any attempt to extend her power and influence in the far East. It is not even certain that China will be permitted to accept an exclusively English loan. The *Journal des Débats*, Paris, says:

"It must be admitted that England has been smart enough in the matter. Having suffered a decided check by the fact that Russia obtained Port Arthur and Germany established herself in Kiao-Chou, Great Britain has recourse to the methods which gave her a free hand in Egypt. She declares that she will even at the risk of war prevent the closing of Chinese ports to British trade, and proceeds to negotiate the loan. We doubt that she will succeed; and we do not doubt that Russia will prevent her, for the guaranties which England is supposed to obtain are somewhat too great. We are inclined to believe that even China prefers to deal with a government whose financial aid will be less self-interested. England would like to appear very unselfish in the case, but it is just as well to remind the Chinese that the very first act which led to the establishment of the English in Egypt was a financial operation between Lord Beaconsfield and the Khedive, resulting in the sale of the latter's Suez Canal shares."

The *Kölnische Zeitung*, Cologne, which very fairly represents the opinions of the German Government in this matter, has no objection to a British-Chinese loan, but the paper warns England that, if the latter country were to attempt to close out foreign competition by underhand means, she must expect to meet with very serious opposition. The paper says:

"The *Reichsanzeiger* has shown plainly enough that Germany will not exclude foreign trade from Kiao-Chou to favor German goods. It has not even been intimated that the Government will try to create a legal right for Germany to exclude others. Nor will such exclusion be carried out indirectly after the manner of British colonial possessions—the Niger territory, for instance, where it is done to this day. German merchants must rely upon their own strength in competition. . . . But neither will Germany consent to have her own enormous and growing trade confined to Shan-tung. If England obtains the loan, the benefits must be shared by all, especially the Germans, who are entering more lively than ever into competition. Despite the howls of the British press, the English will have to put as good a face on the matter as they can, be less selfish, and work hand-in-hand with the Germans. We hope that sensible Englishmen will learn to understand this."

It is doubtful whether England will care to guarantee the loan under these circumstances. Indeed, the financial papers think the loan is not such a very good "spec." unless Great Britain can obtain very special advantages. *Money*, London, says:

"The security for any such loan must obviously be revenue—the collection of such revenues to be under English supervision—whether the controller be Sir Robert Hart or somebody in his stead. The game, however, has yet to be played out, but our view is that England is not so likely to be dished as some critics of our Government would have us believe. . . . Russia, at least, is certain to rush in with better terms than would be offered here. China is very apt at playing off one suitor against another; her policy is about as vertebrate as that of a jellyfish. Naturally, if the thing were a mere affair of credit, and not political intrigue, England, if she desired it, could take the loan. But the stage of mere finance has now been passed."

The daily papers in England, and even in the British colonies, demand that England should at all cost obtain possession of the fat plum, and the Government is likely to find itself in hot water if Great Britain does not get this recompense for the advantages obtained by Russia and Germany. *The Standard*, London, says:

"If our foreign office on this occasion permits the threats of the Czar's charge-d'affaires to coerce Tsung Li Yamen into a rejection of our terms, there will be an end of our influence at the Imperial court. It is not the first, but it is unquestionably the crucial trial of strength. St. Petersburg has chosen the ground and thrown down the challenge."

The St. James's Gazette admits that the loan "would be worth ten Kiao-Chous." So does *The Westminster Gazette*, which, however, can not see what the row is about. When England benefits herself, she benefits the whole world. Everybody ought to know that by this time, thinks the paper. It adds:

"We claim no disinterested motives; we pursue this policy because it suits ourselves. But it does happen very fortunately that we are at this moment the only nation in Europe which can be trusted to conclude such a bargain with China as will not be to the detriment of any one else. . . . At all events, even the most ambitious of our neighbors could hardly question that, next to exclusive control by itself, control by a free-trade power is the best of the alternatives. Now, what we are asking in China is not control, but merely a guaranty against the control of protectionist powers. The bargain, then, is a good one for ourselves, but also for others."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

ITALIAN BRIGANDAGE.

ITALY is the land of secret societies formed for the purpose of defeating the ends of justice, and all attempts to root out the evil have been unsuccessful. The Mafia, which has often pursued its victims even across the ocean, has just given another evidence of its vitality in Sicily. The daughter of an Englishman was kidnaped, and ransomed for $20,000 by her father. Four of the conspirators, being dissatisfied with their share of the booty, were "executed"—buried alive—by order of the "council." Chance led to the discovery of their bodies and of some circumstantial evidence which enabled the authorities to make some important arrests. But it is not likely that this will bring about a change. The *Neue Zuricher Zeitung*, Zurich, usually well versed in Italian affairs, says:

"Italy is certainly a country of contradictions. Italy shows the most remarkable progress in all arts and sciences; she has one of the finest railroad systems in Europe; her penal code is probably the best and most modern. Yet she remains the country of poor, ignorant, enslaved masses, of misery and robbery, of the Camorra and the Mafia. The Mafia, which holds sway in Sicily, is a very old 'institution.' It was formed after the German *Vehme* for the protection of the people against powerful lords who exercised sway during the countless wars and feuds of the Middle Ages. Gradually, however, the Mafia became degenerate. It no longer sought to serve justice, but defeated the ends of justice and terrorized the island with robbery and bloodshed. Since the sixteenth and seventeenth century, the Mafia has been a state within the state, taxing everybody. Whoever dares to oppose it is severely punished, even tortured and murdered. The Government did nothing to break up this secret society, partly because its own members sat in the Grand Council of the Mafia, partly because the Mafiosi always opposed Liberalism—not to say that the Sicilian Liberals are any better than the Clericals and Mafiosi. The Mafia is in their blood, and the thirty-seven years of civic freedom which they have enjoyed now have only removed the evil a little from the surface. The *élite* of the Mafia is formed of the aldermen, priests, merchants, lawyers, landlords, officials, even judges. The Government is powerless against it. The courts and the police are under its influence. Only a better moral education and better economic conditions can bring about a change. As long as corruption reigns, the Mafia will be as flour-

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ishing in Sicily as its South Italian counterpart, the Camorra, in Naples."

That Sardinia is quite as much or worse off is proven by a memorial addressed to the Minister of Agriculture, Cocco-Ortus, describing the condition of his election district of Nuoro and Isili. From which we take the following, as quoted by the Roman correspondent of the Vienna *Freie Presse:*

"Over forty robbers terrorize the district, holding the mountain gorges and plundering the neighboring farms and villages. Lately they have allied themselves with the banditti of Oliena and Orgosolo, and as the authorities are powerless the people of the neighborhood are in constant fear. In one night three farms were plundered, the farmers killed or ill-treated, their women violated, the houses burnt, the cattle driven off. A farm servant effectively resisted, and was praised publicly by the prefect of police. Next day the man was found murdered. Within a very short time twelve policemen have been killed. One policeman, who had earned three medals for bravery in encounters with the robbers, received an ironical letter from one of the robber chiefs to fetch his next medal in heaven. An hour after he was killed in ambush. A wagoner's ears were cut off because he dared to defend a load of corn, another had four mules killed for the same offense. A manifest was billed on the walls of Moro prohibiting farm servants from working for landowners who had incurred the displeasure of the robbers. Three laborers who paid no attention to this warning were killed. The wealthier families of the neighborhood either emigrate or pay tribute to the robbers."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THE DREYFUS CASE.

THE *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, publishes some Parisian news under the heading, "This Has Nothing to Do with the Dreyfus Case." The announcement is not altogether unnecessary, for little else is talked of in the French capital. In the opinion of the most competent judges France is actually on the threshold of another revolution, for whoever may win during the elections of 1898, the defeated parties will consider themselves justified to employ force, and will believe that their defeat is due solely to underhand work among the electors. "The mob," says *The St. James's Gazette*, "are thoroughly roused, tho they have no leaders and no common object. They seem to be the victims of a blind panic—it is the cry of Sedan or of Metz: 'Nous sommes trahis!' but by whom or to whom they are betrayed is not clear to themselves or to anybody else." The principal sufferers are at present the Jews. The hatred against them runs so high that M. de Beauregard even proposed in the Chamber of Deputies to disfranchise them and to lock them up once more in ghettos. Meanwhile the army, backed by the Government, refuses to permit a new trial for Dreyfus. The army, to judge from the tone of General Billot's paper, the *Éclair*, would rather provoke a conflict than allow an investigation, altho no foreign government upholds the French authorities in their assertion that a new trial of Dreyfus would endanger the foreign relations of France. The *Éclair* says:

"The movement in favor of Dreyfus is solely a pretext on the part of the English-German-Jew-Protestant syndicate to establish for good their rule in France. The Protestants play a big rôle in our republic, but their influence was declining and they hope to strengthen it, both in the Government and over public opinion, through this affair. The Protestants are getting restless because the Government has of late been less inclined to persecute the Catholics, and has even favored the latter at the elections. Nor do they like it that the Russo-French alliance has taken the place of the Franco-German and Franco-English *modus vivendi*, which, for racial and religious considerations, pleased them much more. It is not the liberty of a traitor so much as the independence of the Government and the freedom of the French people that the game is being played for."

The Amsterdam *Handelsblad* thinks it rather queer "that such big words are necessary to prevent justice being done to an innocent man, even if he *is* a Jew."

The *Intransigéant*, despite all denials from the French Government, continues to assert that Dreyfus was trying to earn by his treason a place in the Prussian army, where, says the paper, Jews have a much better chance to rise. The German papers call this the "climax of the Dreyfus craze," and, indeed, the story that the German Emperor would *personally* induce, by *correspondence*, a simple captain of engineers to reveal what little he could know, and should offer the traitor a commission in an army in which it is very difficult for the best German-Jew to obtain a footing, could not be safely offered to the reading public of many countries. Yet this story is repeated, and its merits discussed, by many French papers.

Of more importance is the attitude of the revolutionists. In a manifesto published in the *Petite République* the Socialist deputies address their constituents to the following effect:

The Dreyfus scandal shows more than anything else of late how unsound is our social structure. On the merits of the case itself we do not feel justified to pronounce an opinion. But we certainly must demand that more light be shed upon the matter. It is now time for you to show your strength and intention to benefit your country. You must be ready to battle for your freedom, and your war-cry should be alike against the influence of Jewish capital, against Clericalism, and against the military oligarchy. Fight for the establishment of the Social republic!

The *Journal des Débats* realizes the danger. As representative of the existing order of things, the paper sees with alarm that the Socialists, whose hand is against every man's, have an excellent opportunity to arouse the proletariate. "They see," says the paper, "that society is in a bad way, and they kindly offer to despatch and bury it." The *Débats* calls upon every one who has an interest in the defense of society to unite against these revolutionary tendencies. From the Clericals, who are also alive to the danger, the support is certainly forthcoming. *The Irish Catholic*, one of the few papers outside of France which believe that Dreyfus has been justly sentenced, sketches the situation in the main as follows on behalf of the Clericals:

The French Chamber is now in its last hour, according to the constitution of the republic. The question of the hour, then, is how to replace the present by another legislative body, and every section of political thought strives its utmost to impose its views and deals upon the coming Parliament. This is the true secret of the terrific struggle now being waged in France between Jews and Christians, between the friends of order and the apostles of disorder and disruption. In the condemnation of Dreyfus the whole body of circumcised aliens was struck a deadly blow, and since then they have fallen from their position of public masters and have been forced, in some degree, into the political Ghetto from which they should never have been allowed to issue. The Radicals and Socialists, like the Jews, have seen power pass away from them, and their sole dream is to snatch the scepter again, and at any price. Tried in the dear school of experience, the French dread the specter of revolution; the continuous swirl of the last hundred years has made them, in a way, the most conservative people in the world, and they consider that to sustain the actual Government is the most efficacious means to ward off further change. This fact has a great influence on the action of the Catholic leaders; they have supported the present Government since its accession to office, and, indeed, made its power of tenure possible in a Chamber where it rules without a majority. Now, this will tell in their favor with the electors. The republic is that form of government which is most sensitive to popular sentiment, and if public opinion in France is not by this time cured of its anti-religious bias there is no hope for the future. France is now divided into two parties: those of order and morality and those of disorder and shame. It is in the interest of the Christian world that the victory rest with those who take government as a trust from God to be used for the greater good of His people and the greater glory of His name.

On the other hand, the defenders of Dreyfus declare that the

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country can not be saved unless absolute proof is furnished that the enormous punishment inflicted upon him is deserved. The *Aurore*, which published Emile Zola's letter, urges the Government to prosecute the entire so-called "Dreyfus syndicate," of which there is so much talk and whose existence has not been proved. The *Siècle* fears that France suffers most from the fact that all the influences of racial and religious hatred are brought to play to prevent justice being done.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

WAR CORRESPONDENTS AND THE BRITISH ARMY.

THE British military authorities have decided to prevent, "for the present," the presence of war correspondents with the army of the Sudan. An explanation is offered: difficulties of transport. Permission is also given to one agent of Reuter's agency to accompany the troops, to show that it is not intended to deprive the public of all news. But the British press regard this as a mere subterfuge. Nobody doubts that the presence of independent witnesses is objected to. A few papers think there is some justification for this objection. *The Globe*, London, says:

"It must be remembered that, what with the French, the Abyssinians, and the Khalifa, Sir Herbert has very special reasons to prevent his operations and his plans from becoming prematurely public. No doubt he has not forgotten how serviceable the intelligence of the English newspapers proved to Arabi and the Mahdi."

The Daily Chronicle, Newcastle, remarks:

"Secrecy is absolutely essential to the success of Sir Herbert Kitchener's plans. . . . But he can not hope to keep his secrets with the ubiquitous and omniscient war correspondent about him, and with ample means of gaining information at the disposal of the Khalifa. There are cases where an energetic protest against a decision to allow journalists to accompany a military force would be justified. But every case must be adjudged in the light of the circumstances peculiar to it; and in this instance we can not help think that Sir Herbert Kitchener has exercised a wise discretion."

The majority of British papers, nevertheless, believe that their correspondents exercise sufficient discretion, and that, even if they did not, information sent back to Africa *via* England could hardly be of much use to the enemy. It is feared that the British army is not quite in condition to challenge criticism, and the liberty accorded war correspondents by commanders of military organizations which are above suspicion is strongly contrasted with this order.

The Home News, London, says:

"We can not think that the gentlemen who have in the past been permitted to accompany expeditions have betrayed their trust to an extent which justifies their wholesale exclusion. It ought not to be impossible to lay down rules which would insure the conveyance of intelligence to London concerning events only. If information were sent calculated to be of service to the enemy, directly or indirectly, no penalty would be too severe, and this is the chief risk run. But even a pressman on his honor may be trusted, and what of the censorship which is invariably exercised? On the whole, the advantages of war correspondence seem to outweigh the disadvantages of idle gossip which must find its way into the papers."

Lord Wolseley, in the first edition of his "Soldier's Pocket-book," calls the war correspondents "the curse of modern armies." This objectionable remark does not appear in a later edition. Sir William Howard Russell, in an interview with *The Daily News*, London, describes how Lord Wolseley labeled, registered, permitted, passed the correspondents, and how the censorship upon their work was exercised. The same precautions were taken by the French in 1870. On the other hand, the Crown Prince of Prussia thought it unnecessary. Sir William remembers only one case in which a telegram was returned by the Prussian censors, altho any news telegraphed to London could be quickly sent back to France. Nor did Lord Methuen exercise much caution in Egypt, according to John McDonald, another experienced war correspondent.

The Daily Mail points out that the grave criticisms of the British army in India which appeared in the Calcutta *Pioneer* were not allowed to appear in the letters of the war correspondents; and it demands more correspondents and greater freedom from censorship. *The St. James's Gazette* asks: "How would the War Office like us to publish all the gossip of the clubs—true enough, too, most of it—about the fighting on the northwest frontier of India?" *The North British Daily Mail* and the Nottingham *Express* think that the British public, who have to pay the piper, will not allow themselves to be hoodwinked. *The Daily Telegraph*, Sheffield, says:

"What neither the press nor the people will admit nor tolerate is a demand that work on which the gravest issues hang shall be done in the dark. It is too late in the day for a demand like that, and it is singularly ill-timed to have it put forward now, when the nation is not without misgivings as to what has been done and how it has been done on the Indian frontier. The order is an affront both to the press and the public, and the sooner it is rescinded the better for the Kairo staff who were foolish enough to issue it, and the home authorities who have been so ill-advised as to indorse it."

The Evening News, Glasgow, thinks that "a war correspondent worth his salt knows how to secure information whether the army authorities desire that he should get it or not." That is also the opinion of the London *Morning Leader*, which says:

"Lord Wolseley has in his time written bitter things about war correspondents, tho few men owe more to the press, and few men understand the art of self-advertisement more thoroughly. But this peremptory refusal to allow the press to be represented at all is new, and we should not be surprised if it results in some enterprising war correspondent getting away ahead, and perhaps penetrating to Khartoum itself before the mighty Sirdar. We want independent witnesses in these wars of ours, and the war correspondents have always 'played the game,' and have never been guilty of indiscreet revelations."

THE FRENCH PRESS AND HOW TO REFORM IT.

RECENT events in France have drawn attention to the press of that country. Taken as a whole, it does not stand very high in public estimation, and one of the causes of complaint is that it is not willing "to let the other side be heard." M. Flaudin, a member of the Chamber of Deputies, has brought in a bill whose aim is to compel French papers to print the opinions of their opponents, at least for a consideration. The *Revue Bleue*, Paris (see LITERARY DIGEST, January 22), has made an *enquête* among prominent writers in order to ascertain how the tone of the press could be raised. We give below summaries of some of the answers, which are all very lengthy, together with the conclusions arrived at by Henry Bérenger, editor of the *Revue Bleue:*

ANATOLE LEROY-BEAULIEU: Three or four journals excepted, the decadence of our press is manifest. It is vulgar, corrupt, given to dirty thoughts. It is continually in financial difficulties, forced to pander to the masses, who are neither very intellectual nor of over-nice morals, and who can not afford to be truthful. But laws can not reform it. The people have the press that is fit for them, and if we would change it for the better, we must first raise the present low moral level of the country. And that, again, can only be accomplished by the men of the press, that is to say, the honorable among them. They must absolutely refuse to prostitute their pens in the service of the average newspaper. Unless that is done, society will topple over. Nobody knows that better than the Socialists, who, with logical cynicism, regard the press as their allies.

EMILE ZOLA: I am for unbounded liberty of the press. If we

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allow that liberty to be touched, to-morrow our liberty to write books will be questioned. But what a press we have! How it poisons the nation! Yet truth can not flourish unless it has liberty.

JEAN CRUPPI: A special tribunal would be necessary to judge the press, composed of a magistrate versed in affairs of the press, a judge and an expert. Journalists or writers alone could decide such matters. This court would not be a panacea, working wonders; but it is the only way in which legal remedies could be applied without endangering the liberty of the press.

GEORGE RENARD: We must found journals which are not in the hands of anonymous financiers and shareholders, but are managed by persons known to express their own opinions. A union of honorable journalists must be formed, who will relentlessly exclude from their circle every one who does not come up to the mark. Lastly, since a paper can not exist without money, more attention must be given to the advertisements, as is the case in England.

"L. L." (In the name of the Union for the Improvement of Public Morals): The press are not only liars to please those out of whom they make their living; they lie on their own account. In order to be read, the papers must amuse and please. Everybody listens to a janitor who is inquisitive. The same vulgarity is necessary for the press. In England the press is better because the working-people want it so. We must educate our masses up to the same standard.

M. BÉRENGER sums up, in the main, as follows:

Nobody refuses to admit that we must have a free press, but every one demands that the press should also be responsible. It is neither. The press is not *free* because it is under the influence of capital, it is not *responsible* because it is, officially, represented by men who have neither money nor reputation to lose. With rare exceptions the editors of the newspapers are immoral men in every sense of the word,—intelligent, no doubt, but only "out for the money." If honesty, truth, morality, calm judgment are worth less than dishonesty, lies, immorality, and the arousing of evil passions in the public, the newspaper editor will invariably employ the man who deals in the latter category. In this opinion every critic of the French press agrees, from Drumont, Cruppi, Jaurès, Leroy-Beaulieu, and Zola to the most humble of our correspondents.

What, then, is the remedy?

First of all, we must endeavor to prevent mere capitalists and mere reporters from directing the press. Legal guaranties of capacity, knowledge, and honor are demanded from lawyers and physicians. Make journalism a profession. Keep out the Barnums who juggle with the nation's honor for the sake of money. Demand professional guaranties from the journalist as well as the lawyer and the doctor, do not let them practise without such guaranties, and you will keep the pestiferous vermin who have neither talent nor character out of the profession. Legislation to this effect is needed most.

Moreover, instead of the fictitious "responsible" editor, the proprietor of the paper and the writer should be hauled before the court when an obnoxious paragraph is published. M. Cruppi's suggestion too is very good. Professional journalists, recognized by the state as such, should be appointed to pass judgment upon offenders of the press. This may appear as an ideal to many people, but it is certainly attainable. A minority only may be willing to work toward this end, but a minority fighting on the side of right and justice always beats the majority.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND'S CHINESE POLICY.

THE recent significant declarations of British Ministers in regard to England's determination to face war, if necessary, in order to secure open ports and free markets in China, were coupled with positive disclaimers of any territorial designs on the part of the British Government. How the Russian Government regards these declarations of policy may be inferred from the editorial comments in leading St. Petersburg newspapers, strictly controlled by the Foreign Office in all matters relating to international politics. The following rather frank avowals made by the *Novosti* throw some light on Russia's intention in occupying Port Arthur. We translate from the editorial rather freely:

"Great Britain is apparently trying to create another imbroglio in the far East. Why is her diplomacy ever preparing new misunderstandings, new entanglements—ever putting England into the position of hostility to all other European powers? Always planning new acquisitions, new grabs, herself, and steadily annexing territory outside the spheres of influence of other great countries, England is yet perversely unwilling to see her European neighbors follow her example, even under the stress of absolute necessity.

"Germany has long felt herself straitened and crowded in her narrow geographical bounds. She has outgrown her territory and means of subsistence, and sooner or later she will have to turn her attention seriously to colonization as a means of relieving her population. Of course, she will not surrender her right to the allegiance of her emigrants, and she will follow them and concern herself in their well-being, in her own interest as well as in theirs. What wonder, then, that Germany is seeking to improve her opportunities of acquiring territory in safe and convenient parts of the globe? Why this British excitement over Germany's action in China? Why not China as a colonial field?

"Stranger still is England's displeasure with Russia's purpose of extending her possessions in the far East. Russia is herself a Pacific power, and the completion of her Siberian railway, extending to Chinese dominions, will open a new era in her commercial development. Is it not natural and legitimate for her to take timely measures toward securing an ice-free port for her vessels and merchant marine? Is she not bound to provide for naval protection of her commerce?

"We should characterize English policy as *Chinese*, in the sense that British diplomacy suffers from exactly the same narrowness and conceit which have reduced China to such humiliating impotence. We might go farther and express the hope that an actual physical collision with some great rival power might convince English statesmanship of the danger of selfishness and pride. What we should really like to see is a little greater circumspection and regard for the future developments of world politics. Since, by the mere logic of events, we have seen a perfectly peaceable division of a great part of the globe—Africa—without the resort to arms, then why might not the inevitable redistribution on the Asiatic continent be accomplished under equally auspicious circumstances? All that is needed is a proper and opportune agreement as to the delineation of the various spheres of influence. The nation of world-domination must be abandoned. Let England indicate what, in virtue of logical necessity, should go to her, and let her allow others to appropriate the rest in peace. England could not hope to grab all and keep it, for there is no naval or military power in the world able to guard a hundred scattered islands and a thousand pieces of territory. One serious blow, and the whole fabric would fall to pieces. We fear English diplomacy is sowing the wind and preparing a catastrophe for the nation. We repeat, all that is necessary is an early understanding as to the fair division of the doomed empire."

Similar intimations are made by the semiofficial *Novoye Vremya*, which, after pretending that Russia and Germany are more friendly toward China than Great Britain, goes on to say:

"China can not forget England's hostile attitude toward her during—as well as at the conclusion of—the war with Japan. It was Russia, France, and Germany which then stepped in and saved China from threatened loss of much of her continental territory. Now England demands 'compensation' for the advantages obtained by Germany and Russia, and threatens aggressive action. She will scarcely succeed, however. The difference between the present situation and former situations is that there are now squadrons in Chinese waters of powers ready to support the Chinese Government in declining the illogical demands of England. The time of British supremacy and monopoly in China is past. China no longer stands face to face with the 'mistress of the seas.' Other powers having interests in the Celestial Empire have taken steps to resist British aggression. Neither tall talk nor the attempt to frighten China into concessions will answer at present. The wisest and most profitable arrangement for the British Government would be a perfect understanding with Germany and Russia, tho this involve the surrender of the hope to the eventual acquisition of a lion's share of Chinese territory."

It will be seen that the Russian press does not pretend that the occupation of Port Arthur is merely temporary. It freely discusses the inevitable dismemberment of China along the lines adopted by the powers in fixing spheres of influence in Africa. The English talk about open ports and markets is considered pure bluffing, a subterfuge intended to gain time and circumvent the designs of other powers upon Chinese territory.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

NEW SIDE-LIGHTS ON GRANT'S CHARACTER.

A VOLUME of General Grant's letters to Elihu B. Washburne, his friend and supporter during the war, and afterward his Secretary of State, has lately been published. There are in the volume, which is edited by James Grant Wilson, forty-eight letters and parts of letters, the first dated September 3, 1861, the last March 25, 1880. All but three of the letters are personal, many of them being dated from such famous battle-fields as Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, and the Wilderness. While they are of considerable historical value, their chief interest will probably lie in their revelations of Grant's own feelings and views, especially at the time when he was under the fire of fierce criticism. Nothing is more prominent in this correspondence than Grant's modesty and his desire to vindicate himself by deeds instead of by words. We quote a few of the extracts which best illustrate these traits:

"CAMP NEAR CORINTH, MISS., May 14, 1862.

"The great number of attacks made on me by the press of the country is my apology for not writing to you oftener, not desiring to give any contradiction to them myself. You have interested yourself so much as my friend that should I say anything it would probably be made use of in my behalf. I would scorn being my own defender against such attacks except through the record which has been kept of all my official acts, and which can be examined at Washington at any time. To say that I have not been distressed at these attacks upon me would be false, for I have a father, mother, wife, and children who read them and are distressed by them, and I necessarily share with them in it. Then, too, all subject to my orders read these charges, and it is calculated to weaken their confidence in me and weaken my ability to render efficient service in our present cause. One thing I will assure you of, however—I can not be driven from rendering the best service within my ability to suppress the present rebellion, and, when it is over, retiring to the same quiet it, the rebellion, found me enjoying. Notoriety has no charms for me, and could I render the same services that I hope it has been my fortune to render our just cause without being known in the matter, it would be infinitely preferable to me.

"Those people who expect a field of battle to be maintained for a whole day with about thirty thousand troops, most of them entirely raw, against fifty thousand, as was the case at Pittsburg Landing while waiting for reinforcements to come up, without loss of life, know little of war. To have left the field of Pittsburg for the enemy to occupy until our force was sufficient to have gained a bloodless victory would have been to leave the Tennessee to become a second Potomac. There was nothing left for me but to occupy the west bank of the Tennessee and to hold it at all hazards. It would have set this war back six months to have failed, and would have caused the necessity of raising, as it were, a new army.

"Looking back at the past, I can not see for the life of me any important point that could be corrected. Many persons who have visited the different fields of battle may have gone away displeased because they were not permitted to carry off horses, firearms, or other valuables as trophies. But they are no patriots who would base their enmity on such grounds. Such, I assure you, are the grounds of many bitter words that have been said against me by persons who at this day would not know me by sight, yet profess to speak from a personal acquaintance.

"I am sorry to write such a letter, infinitely sorry that there should be grounds for it. My own justification does not demand it, but you are entitled to know my feelings."

In a note to this letter James Grant Wilson, the editor, says:

"In his second inaugural address Grant gave expression to his sense of the injustice done to him by shameful and vindictive criticism, saying in conclusion: 'Throughout the war and from my candidacy to the present office, in 1868, to the close of the last Presidential campaign, I have been the subject of abuse and slander, scarcely ever equaled in political history, which to-day I feel that I can afford to disregard, in view of your verdict, which I most gratefully accept as my vindication.'"

Grant gives his idea of the duties of a soldier in very few words in the following letter:

"CORINTH, MISS., June 19, 1862.

" . . . The masses this day are more disloyal in the South from fear of what might befall them in case of defeat to the Union cause than from any dislike to the Government. . . . It is hard to say what would be the most wise policy to pursue toward these people, but for a soldier his duties are plain. He is to obey the orders of all those placed over him, and whip the enemy wherever he meets him. 'If he can' should only be thought of after an unavoidable defeat. . . . . ."

The following is one of the best illustrations in the volume of Grant's modesty and patriotism:

"CHATTANOOGA, TENN., December 12, 1863.

" . . . I feel under many obligations to you for the interest you have taken in my welfare. But recollect that I have been highly honored already by the Government, and do not ask or feel that I deserve anything more in the shape of honors or promotions. A success over the enemy is what I crave above everything else, and desire to hold such an influence over those under my command as to enable me to use them to the best advantage to secure this end."

Grant's early modesty seems to have amused even himself as he looked back at it, if we may judge from the following extract from a letter written during the trip around the world:

"PARIS, December 24, 1878.

" . . . If we get to San Francisco as early as that [the last of June] or nearly so, I shall want to remain on the Pacific coast six weeks or two months. I spent two years there in early life, and always felt the greatest desire to make it my future home. Nothing ever fell over me like a wet blanket so much as my promotion to the lieutenant-generalcy. As junior major-general in the regular army I thought my chances good for being placed in command of the Pacific division when the war closed. As lieutenant-general all hope of that kind vanished. . . . . ."

The following note, added by Mr. Wilson, is of timely interest:

"Replying to an inquiry concerning the defenses of Havana, the general in a communication to a friend writes a few years after the date of his letter from Cuba: 'On my visit to Havana three years ago, I had an opportunity of seeing the forts and the armament. Both are formidable, and with additions that could easily be made before any country could attack them, impregnable from direct attack. But I should not regard Havana as a difficult place to capture with a combined army and navy. It would have to be done, however, by effecting a landing elsewhere and cutting off land communications with the army, while the navy would perform the same service on the water. The hostility of the native population to the Spanish authority would make this a comparatively easy task for any first-class power, and especially easy for the United States in case of a war with Spain.'"

CORRESPONDENTS' CORNER.

Manzoni, not Mazzoni.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:

Permit me to point out that in your issue of January 1, in the article "A Great Italian Humorist," page 10, column 2, the name Manzoni is misprinted Mazzoni.

H. S. HOME.

SOUTH BEND, IND.

Southern Negroes and Voodooism.

Editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST:

In your issue of December 11, on page 983, under the caption of "The Condition of Haiti," you quote from the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, in which occurs the following sentence: "The Voodoo (in Africa called Vodun) is the mysterious, non-poisonous serpent . . . which is accepted by the negroes as the Supreme Being." Here you make a footnote which concludes: "Among our Southern negroes belief in the wisdom of this serpent is not uncommon." In this you err—not intentionally, of course; but the statement is not true. The Southern negroes would be highly insulted to be accused of Voodooism. I was born in 1833 on a plantation where my father owned many slaves, was raised up among them, and have been connected with them, more or less, all my life, and in different States, but this is the first time I ever heard of the serpent story in connection with them.

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

The severity of the weather during the past week has influenced the distribution of staple goods to a considerable extent in all portions of the country, New England and the Northwest suffering the most. A depressing effect has also been exerted by the Prussian decree against American fruit, altho the prompt and vigorous protest of Ambassador White has secured considerable modification of its original severity. The official announcement of the consolidation of the New York Central and Lake Shore railroads has been another feature of the week's trade. Bank clearings have made an unusually good showing. *Dun's Review* says they were "much larger than in any previous month, 36.3 per cent. larger than the same month last year, and 7.1 per cent. larger than in 1892."

Speaking of the week's failures, *The Review* continues: "The failures in January were smaller than in any previous year of which there is record, and were probably smaller than in any other January since 1881. The statement by branches of business given this week shows a surprising gain in most departments of manufacture and trade. No failures appear in the woolen manufacture, and in several branches only an insignificant aggregate compared with the failures of previous years."

According to *Bradstreet's*, "steadiness in prices has been the feature of the week."

The Stock Market.—"The stock market has been fairly strong, and the average of prices for railway stocks is about 38 cents per share higher than a week ago, with the average for trust stocks about 47 cents per share higher. Railway earnings show an increase for the month of January, as far as reported, of 16.1 per cent. over last year, and 7.8 compared with 1892. There is great increase in the Eastbound movement of freight, and the outside roads show less increase in business, tho in the coal traffic there is a better demand and larger tonnage moving. Exports of domestic products from New York are 6 per cent. larger for the week than last year, and 10 per cent. larger for January, while imports are 4 per cent. smaller for the week, and 8 per cent. smaller for the month."—*Dun's Review, February 5.*

Cereal Crops in 1897.—"Statistics furnished to this journal by Mr. John Hyde, the statistician of the Department of Agriculture, present one particular feature of interest regarding the yield and value of the cereal crops for the year 1897 as compared with the preceding year. This is that with a decreased total production, as compared with 1896, the cereal crops of 1897 brought a higher value than those of 1896. The same is true as regards the crops in detail, except in the case of wheat and rye, whose yield for 1897 showed larger quantities than the year before. Corn led all the other cereals in both quantity and value with a yield of 1,902,967,933 bushels. This represented a falling-off of over 380,000,000 bushels as compared with the year preceding, but higher prices increased the value by a little over $10,000,000. Wheat, the next crop in importance, showed a yield of 530,149,168 bushels in 1897, with a value of $428,547,121, a gain of over 102,400,000 bushels and of nearly $118,000,000 in value as compared with 1896. Oats, the third in importance of the great cereals, yielded a crop of 698,767,809 bushels, valued at $147,974,719, a decrease of over 8,500,000 bushels, but an increase of nearly $15,500,000 in value as compared with the year preceding. The three crops mentioned, together with the smaller crops of barley, rye, and buckwheat for 1897, were valued at $1,121,295,766, an increase of over $149,200,000 as compared with 1896, tho the yield showed a decrease of over 286,000,000 bushels."—*Bradstreet's, February 5.*

The Cereals and Cotton.—"With exports of 3,094,517 bushels [of wheat] against 1,770,546 last year, flour included, from Atlantic ports, and 776,840 from Pacific ports against 844,343 bushels last year, the temper of the market has been weaker. The report of the Agricultural Department has had some influence, altho its figures are not generally credited as reliable. During the past week prices have declined 8 cents, altho there has been no corresponding decrease in foreign or domestic demand. Corn has fallen only ⅝ of a cent for spot, and there has been no important change in options. The wheat market has turned largely upon the operations of a Chicago speculator, but the fact remains that the price depends largely upon foreign needs and upon the comparative scarcity of American supply. The outgo of corn continues heavy, 3,708,786 bushels against 3,343,400 for the same week last year, and the excess over last year, when exports were much the greatest ever known, indicates a very heavy foreign demand. The spot price of cotton remains unchanged, but the fact that receipts continue larger than during the same week of 1895, after the heaviest crop ever known, checks speculative operations for an advance."—*Dun's Review, February 5.*

Canadian Trade.—"Heavy snows and intense cold checked business throughout Canada early in the week and delayed payments on business already done. Montreal reported considerable interrup-

Sewing Machines of the Present

are very different from those of the past. Very few users of sewing machines know the *technical differences;* patents *have* expired on generic features, but "the world moves," and radical improvements have been made in sewing machines, so that the one of to-day shows a tremendous improvement on its predecessor. Women who have used both kinds quickly realize the difference between a cheaply made imitation of some ancient type and the modern light-running machine which is easily adjusted, does all kinds of work, and is always ready to go. The Silent Singer of to-day is the latest result of constant improvement in mechanical excellence. For practical use it compares with the old-time sewing machines sold at department stores much as a modern railway train surpasses a stage-coach of the last century.

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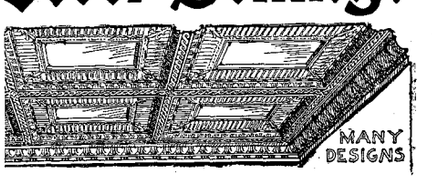

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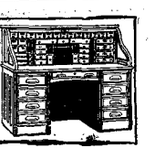

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tion to distribution owing to the blocking of country roads. Early spring trade is, however, a promising feature, and with continued good weather anticipations are hopeful. Toronto reports that payments due on February 4 were quite satisfactorily met and the number of renewals was smaller than expected. Business, interfered with early in the week by storms, improved later on. Halifax reports heavy snows as checking lumber business, and the log cut in New Brunswick is not expected to exceed half of last year's. Business failures in Canada this week number 42, against 49 last week, 58 one year ago, 60 in the corresponding week of 1896 and 51 this week of 1895. Canadian bank clearings this week amount to $26,461,000, 8.4 per cent. larger than last week and 34 per cent. larger than last year."—*Bradstreet's, February 5.*

PERSONALS.

CAPTAIN RICH, formerly chief engineer of the Wisconsin Central and later connected in the same capacity on the Soo Line, has been appointed Director-General of Railways in China. He has spent most of the past year in China, and while there made a survey through 700 miles of the interior of that country for a railroad from Hangkow to Peking for the Chinese Government. He returned to this country in August, but left Minneapolis December 30 for China, to assume the duties of his new position.

A NEW Whistler anecdote was told recently by actor Frank Harris. "Ah," said Harris to Whistler, "I was talking to that great genius Degas about you, Mr. Whistler. He remarked to me, 'Hein! Whistlaire! He has talent.' 'Talent,' I exclaimed, 'how can you talk of the greatest artist of the day in that way? You should remember that not only is he an incomparable etcher, a marvelous draftsman, and a prince among painters, but he is at the same time the wittiest conversationalist, the most brilliant epigrammist and the best company alive.' 'Well, if he is all that,' replied Degas with a shrug, 'what a pity it is that he does not paint with his tongue.'"

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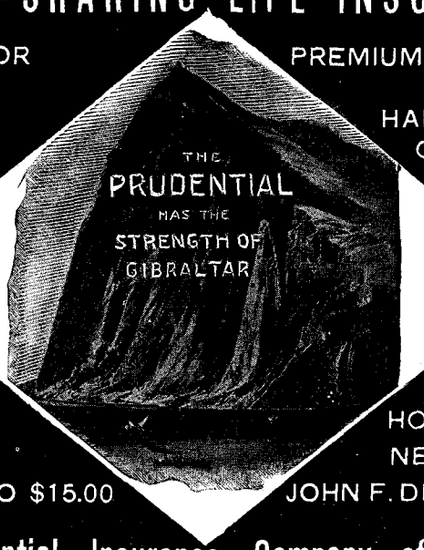

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Current Events.

Monday, January 31.

The United States **Supreme Court adjourns** until February 21. . . . **5,000 workmen** in the Atlantic and Pacific **cotton-mills** at Lawrence, Mass., **resume** work at a **reduced wage** schedule. . . . A **resolution** is **introduced** in the New York legislature **censuring Senator Murphy** for voting for the Teller resolution and **demanding his resignation**. . . . The Manhattan Railway Company asks permission of the New York City Rapid Transit Commission to make extensions. . . . Upon the **resignation of Governor Griggs, of New Jersey, President Voorhees,** of the state senate, takes the oath of office as **governor**. . . . Congress—Senate: The **army** and **legislative, executive,** and **judicial appropriation bills** are **passed**. House: The **Teller bond resolution** is **defeated,** after a five hours' debate, by a vote **of 182 to 132.**

A Russian cruiser passes through the Bosporus with sixteen hundred troops **for the East.** . . . Reports of the **foreign wheat crop** show a **falling-off** in several Russian provinces. . . . The **body** of Lieutenant-Colonel **Ruiz,** former aide-de-camp to Captain-General Blanco, has been **found** and buried. . . . An **explosion of a bomb** causes excitement in Havana. . . . The **Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs** says that there were **no relations** of any kind **between Italian** agents and Alfred **Dreyfus.**

Tuesday, February 1.

Secretary Long declares that the **vote on the Teller resolution** will greatly **help** the **Republicans** in the coming **Congressional elections.** . . . Ex-Governor of New Jersey **John W. Griggs assumes his duties as Attorney-General** of the United States. . . . **Heavy snowfalls** and unusually severe weather **impede business** all over the country. . . . **President McKinley** gives **a dinner** in honor of **President and Mrs. Dole, of Hawaii.** . . . United States Senator **T. B. Turley** is **renominated** by the Democratic caucus at Nashville, Tenn. . . . **The trial** of **Sheriff Martin** and his deputies for the shooting of strikers at Lattimer, Pa., **begins** at Wilkesbarre. . . . The **government receipts** for January show **a surplus of $636,917** . . . Congress—The Senate, in executive session, debates the **Hawaiian annexation** question. The House discusses the **District of Columbia appropriation bill.**

The Tsung-li-Yamen (**Chinese foreign office**) proposes to **divide the loan** between Great Britain and Russia. . . . **Germany** demands **further concessions** from China as indemnity for the killing of a German sentry. . . . **Japan** is believed to be making active **preparations for war.** . . . On the departure of the *Vizcaya* from Spain the admiral tells the crew that they are charged with a **peaceful mission.**

Wednesday, February 2.

A delegation of **business men** call on the

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Progress of Medical Science.

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President to **urge** the creation of **a Department of Commerce and Industries**. . . . Secretary **Gage issues regulations** governing the **transportation of merchandise to the Klondike region**. . . . The cruiser *Montgomery* is ordered **to visit several Cuban ports**. . . . Congress—Senate: The Hawaiian annexation is discussed. House: The District of Columbia appropriation bill is passed.

The **Prussian Government** issues a **decree excluding American fruits from** entry to the Kingdom **on sanitary grounds; Ambassador White** presents strong **remonstrances** against this inimical step. . . . Many **changes** in its **diplomatic and consular service in the United States** have been ordered by the **French** Government. . . . **Fatal storms** are prevailing **throughout Europe**, lives being **lost** in the British Isles and in Italy.

Thursday, February 3.

Japan withdraws her last **objection** to the **annexation** of **Hawaii** by this country. . . . The taking of **testimony** in the **Sheriff Martin trial begins** at Wilkesbarre. . . . **Secretary Gage, Postmaster-General Gary, and Congressman Dingley speak** at the dinner of the **Baltimore** merchants and Manufacturers Association. . . . **Anti-Quay Republicans** in Pennsylvania ask **John Wanamaker** if he will be **candidate for governor** this fall. . . . Congress—Senate: A **resolution** requesting information in regard to the **Prussian decree** against American **fruit** is adopted; the **agricultural appropriation bill** is passed. House: The fortifications appropriation bill is considered.

Three powerful **British squadrons** are **ordered to China**. . . . The ***Dominion* Parliament** meets in Ottawa, Canada. . . . **Twenty persons** are **killed** by the **earthquakes** at Brusa, in Asia Minor. . . . It is officially estimated that the **cost** of the **Cuban war** from February, 1895, to the end of 1897 is **$240,000,000.**

Friday, February 4.

The **United States** Legation at St. Petersburg and the **Russian** Legation at Washington are to be raised to the rank of **Embassies**. . . . The President nominates **Ethan A. Hitchcock, of Missouri**, now Minister, to be Ambassador to Russia. . . . The War Department has arranged with the Pennsylvania Railroad for the **transportation** across the country of the **reindeer** which are to be used in **Alaska**. . . . **Testimony** showing that several of the **strikers** at Lattimer, Pa., were **shot as they fled** is given in the trial of Sheriff Martin and his deputies at Wilkesbarre. . . . The official announcement of the **consolidation of the Lake Shore and New York Central** Railroads is made. . . . Congress—Senate: **Mr. Lindsay**, of Kentucky, **replies** to the resolutions of his state legislature calling for his resignation. House: The **sale of the Kansas Pacific Railroad** is discussed at length.

An **official statement** regarding the reason for **excluding American fruit** from Germany is **published** in Berlin; the German Minister of Agriculture says that it may be necessary to **exclude American horses** from Germany because of influenza. . . . **Objections by France** have led to the **indefinite postponement** of the proposed **sugar bounties conference.**

Saturday, February 5.

Attorney-General Griggs decides to ask for **an indefinite postponement** of the sale of the **Kansas Pacific Railroad. First mortgage bonds** are to be **redeemed** by the Treasury and **a receiver** is to be **appointed** to **operate the road** in the interest of the Government pending the sale. . . . **Rear-Admiral T. O. Selfridge, Jr.**, is placed on the **retired** list of the Navy. . . . **Monsignor Edward McColgan, Vicar-General of the Catholic Archdiocese of Baltimore, dies** in that city. . . . Returning miners bring news of **new strikes** in the **Klondike** region, and say that a **stampede** from ***Dawson is imminent***. . . . Congress: The Senate not in session. House: The **Fortifications Appropriation bill is passed.**

Italy proposes to **enforce** the **Cernuti claim against** the United States of **Colombia**. . . . The **Cross River Expedition** (British) is reported to have been **massacred** in Africa.

Sunday, February 6.

David B. Hill is reported as engaged in an effort to make **Chief Judge Alton B. Parker** the **Democratic candidate for President in 1900**. . . . **President and Mrs. Dole**, of Hawaii, **leave Washington** for Buffalo. . . . A **petition** is being circulated in **Skaguay** and **Dyea**, Alaska, asking the Secretary of War to place the **routes to the Klondike** gold fields **under martial law.**

The **Japanese Minister in Corea demands** that the **Corean Government sign** without delay a **railway contract** made **with Japan**. . . . **Conflicts** between the **Turkish soldiery** and **Greek peasants** continue **in Thessaly**, a hundred people having been killed up to date. . . . The candidacy of **Prince George for Governor of Crete** and the Cretan question generally have been **shelved** at Constantinople. . . . **Dr. Nansen**, the Arctic explorer, was interviewed in London and is quoted as saying that he was **almost killed with kindness** of a social nature **in the United States.**

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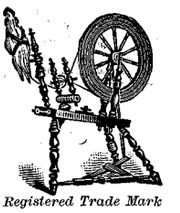

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Hawaii

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CHESS.

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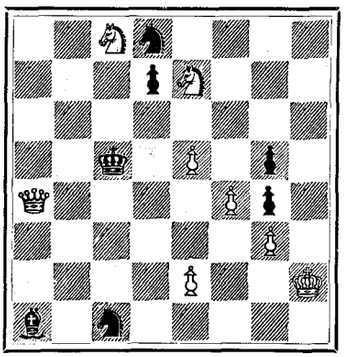
Problem 260.

BY B. G. LAWS.

Black—Seven Pieces.

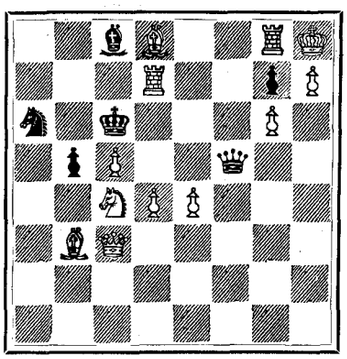


White—Eight Pieces.
White mates in three moves.

Problem 261.

BY E. PRADIGNAT.

Black—Six Pieces.



White—Twelve Pieces.
White mates in two moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 255.

Key-move, R—Kt 8.

We have decided to give only the key-move of two-ers.

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; J. G. O'Callaghan, Low Moor, Va.; H. W. Barry, Boston; W. G. Donnan, Independence, Iowa; W. R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; M. F. Mullan, Pomeroy, Iowa; J. C. Eppens, Canal Dover, Ohio; F. B. Osgood, North Conway, N. H.; W. S. Weeks, Litchfield, Minn.; W. J. H., Newton Center, Mass.; G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Man.; C. Q. De France, Lincoln, Neb.; H. F. Fitch, Omaha; D. S. Rubino, Glen Lyon, Pa.; Dr. W. S. Frick, Philadelphia; Albert Shepherd, Bloomington, Ill.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; W. K. Greely, Boston, Mass.

Comments: "Very ingenious"—M. W. H. "Master-hand in this composition"—F. H. J. "The best two-mover I ever tried"—J. G. O'C. "Almost the equal of 248"—H. W. B. "Well contrived"—W. G. D. "Rather apoplectic"—W. R. C. "We all admire Meyer"—I. W. B. "A prize-winner, sure"—M. F. Mullan.

A number of our solvers went astray with R—Q 6. The reply is R—B 5, and there is no mate next move. It is rather remarkable, as Mr. Donnan says, that "R—Q 6 is safe for no less than eight variations." Several others tried R—Kt 3; but B x P stops all further proceedings; Q—Q 3, as several sent, is not mate, for K—B 5.

F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala., got 254; and F. L. Hitchcock, Scranton, Pa., was successful with 251 and 253.

Several of our solvers forgot to put their names on correct solution of 255. Hence, if any do not get credit, it is their own fault.

The Rice Gambit.

Professor Rice has discovered a gambit within a gambit, or, in other words, he sacrifices another piece in the famous Kieseritzky Gambit and secures an overwhelming attack. The Professor has published his gambit with thorough analysis by Mr. S. Lipschutz. The general idea is as follows:

1	P—K 4	P—K 4
1	P—K B 4	P x P
3	Kt—K B 3	P—K Kt 4
4	P—K R 4	P—Kt 5
5	Kt—K 5	Kt—K B 3
6	B—B 4	P—Q 4
7	P x P	B—Q 3
8	Castles	B x Kt

Here is where the gambit comes in. White plays (9) R—K sq, etc. There are very many variations, and in several positions White has only one satisfactory answer, which seems so very unlikely that hardly any player, possibly no one except Professor Rice or Mr. Lipschutz, would find it.

The Correspondence Tourney.

FORTY-THIRD GAME.

Ruy Lopez.

THE REV. H. W. TEMPLE, Washingt'n, Pa.	A. L. JONES, Montgomery, Ala.	THE REV. H. W. TEMPLE.	A. L. JONES.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	16 B—Kt 3	Kt—B 4
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	17 Ktx Kt(f)	B x Kt (g)
3 B—Kt 5	Kt—B 3	18 Q x P	Q—Kt 3
4 Castles	Kt x P	19 Q—Q 2	Q R—K sq
5 P—Q 4	B—K 2	20 P—K 6	P x P
6 Q-K 2 (a)	P—K B 4 (b)	21 Kt—K 5	Q—B 3
7 P x P	Castles	22 B x Kt	B x B
8 R—Q sq	Q—K sq	23 B—B 4	B—Kt 4 (h)
9 B-B 4ch(c)	K—R sq	24 P—B 4	B—Q 3
10 Q Kt-Q 2	Kt—B 4	25 R—K sq	B—R 3
11 Kt—Kt 3	P-Q Kt 3 (d)	26 Kt—Q 7	B x B
12 B—B 4	Kt-K 5 (e)	27 Q x B	Q x P
13 B—Q 5	B—Kt 2	28 Kt x R	R x Kt
14 Q—K 3	Q—R 4	29 Q x Q B P	Q—Kt 2
15 R—Q 3	P—K Kt 4	30 R—Q 7	Resigns

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) Up to this point the moves are the same as in the Nineteenth Game of the Pillsbury-Showalter match.

(b) Kt—Q 3 is better. He can not keep the Kt on K 5, and the text-move weakens his K's side.

(c) A lost move; accomplishes nothing. The B is well posted. Should play Kt—Q 2.

(d) Kt—Q 3 is probably stronger.

(e) B—Kt 2 at once. The Kt accomplishes nothing on K 5.

(f) Black has a winning game.

(g) Throws away his chance. Should take with P.

(h) The trouble with Black's game is his weak K's side, the result of his 6th and 17th moves. The text-move is bad, should have kept B on diagonal. Now he loses the exchange and the game.

FORTY-FOURTH GAME.

F. M. OSTERHOUT, Factoryville, Pa.	THE REV. H. W. TEMPLE, Washington, Pa.	F. M. OSTERHOUT.	THE REV. H. W. TEMPLE.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—Q 4	P—K B 4	30 P—B 3	Kt—B 4
2 B—B 4	P—Q 4	31 Q x P	Kt—Kt 6 ch
3 Kt-K B 3	Kt—K B 3	32 K—Kt sq	Kt—K 7 ch
4 P—K 3	P—K 3 (a)	33 K—B sq	Kt—Kt 6 ch
5 P—Q B 4	B-Kt 5 ch (b)	34 K—K sq	Kt x R (r)
6 Kt—Q 2	Kt-Q B 3 (c)	35 Kt—B 6	B—R 5 ch
7 P—Q R 3	B—K 2	36 K—K 2	Kt—Kt 6 ch
8 P-B 5 (d)	Castles	37 K x P	Kt—B 4 ch
9 B—Q 3	P-Q Kt 3 (e)	38 K—Q 3	R—Q 4
10 P—Q Kt 4	P x P (f)	39 P—R 5	Kt x P
11 Kt P x P	Kt-K R 4 (g)	40 Kt x Kt	B—Q sq
12 B-K 5 (h)	Kt x B (i)	41 Q—B 4	Q—Q 3
13 Kt x Kt	Kt—B 3	42 P—R 6	B—Kt 3
14 B-Kt 5 (j)	Kt—Kt 5 (k)	43 R—R 4	Q x P
15 Kt—B 6	Q—K sq	44 P—R 7	B x P
16 Kt x P	B—Q 2 (l)	45 R x B	Q—Q sq
17 P—B 6	Q—Kt 3 (m)	46 K—B 3	Q—Kt 3
18 P x B	R x Kt	47 Q—B 8 ch	R—Q sq
19 P—Q R 4	P—B 5 (n)	48 Q x P ch	Q x Q
20 P x P	R x P	49 Kt x Q	K—K sq
21 Kt—B 3	B-Kt 5 ch (o)	50 R x P ch	K—R sq
22 K—B sq	Q—B 3	51 Kt—B 7	R—K 8
23 Q—K 2	R—K 5	52 R—Q 7	R—B 8 ch
24 Q—Kt 2	B—K 2	53 K—Q 2	R—K Kt 8
25 B—Q 3	R—R 4 (p)	54 P—Kt 4	R—Kt 6
26 P—R 3	Kt—R 3	55 Kt—K 6	P—R 3
27 B x R	P x B	56 P—B 4	R x P
28 Kt—K 5	Q—B sq	57 P—B 5	K—Kt sq
29 Q-Kt 7 (q)	P—K 6	58 P—B 6	R—Kt 6
		59 R-Kt 7 ch	K—R sq
		60 P—B 7	Resigns.

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) Kt—K 5 gives a strong position.

(b) Lost move, as he is compelled to retire his B. The move indicated is Kt—K 5, then B—Kt 5 would at least retard White's development.

(c) He still refuses to prosecute the attack.

(d) White is in a hurry to advance the P. B—Q Kt 5 followed by Castling is the natural continuation.

(e) Very much of Black's future trouble is the result of this move. He has several better moves, probably B—Q 2 is the best. Then if P—Q Kt 4, P—Q R 3, etc.

(f) Another bad move. He should play Kt—Kt sq. The Kt P can not advance. If Kt—K 5, B—Kt 2. It must be admitted, however, that Black has a cramped game.

(g) Another lost move. Why not B—Kt 2?

(h) Kt—K 5 looks best.

(i) So long as White did not force the Black Kt on B 3, the next move is little less than a blunder. This enables White to post his Kt just where it will do the most good. B—Kt 2 is, evidently, the move.

(j) An excellent move, full of ginger.

(k) We do not see the meaning of this. Kt—Q 2 is the play.

(l) He seems to be afraid. Q—Kt 3 at once, followed by B—B 3, gives him an attacking position.

(m) It were better to retire the B than to allow the P to get on Q 7.

(n) B—Q 3 places White on the defensive.

(o) Black overlooks his chance. R—K 5 ch more than equalizes matters.

(p) P—B 4 would enliven things, and get rid of that dangerous P.

(q) Kt—B 6 is best.

(r) Black can win here: 34 B—Kt 5 ch, 35 K—Q sq, P—K 7 ch; 36 K—B sq or B 2, R—B 4 ch, winning the Q.

FORTY-FIFTH GAME.

Ruy Lopez.

"ULTIMO,"	E. A. MORE, JR., Denver.	"ULTIMO."	E. A. MORE, JR.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	10 Q x P (d)	Kt—B 3
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	11 P—K 5 (e)	P x P
3 B—Kt 5	P—Q R 3	12 Q x P	Castles
4 B—R 4	P-Q Kt 4 (a)	13 P-Q R 4(f)	B—Q 3
5 B—Kt 3	B—Kt 2	14 Q—K 2	R—K sq
6 Castles (b)	P—Q 3	15 B—K 3	R—K 5
7 P—Q 4	Kt x Q P	16 P x P	B x R P ch (g)
8 Ktx Kt(c)	P x Kt	17 K—R sq	Kt—Kt 5
9 P—Q B 3	B—K 2	18 Resigns. (h)	

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) Black reverses the order of things. He should play Kt—B 3 first. This line of play enables White to get a very strong position, which, in this instance, he does not profit by.

(b) Here is where he makes his mistake. He should play P—Q 4, or reverse his 6th and 7th moves.

(c) Why not B x P ch, with a ticklish game for Black?

(d) Evidently B—B 2 is better. White has retarded his development.

(e) A very bad move, as it permits the Black B to get on the dangerous diagonal.

(f) Somewhat difficult to see the purpose of this move. The best is probably Kt—Q 2, or B—K Kt 5.

(g) Good play, this, and must win.

(h) If 18 Kt—Q 2, Q—R 5; 19 Kt—B 3, Q—R 4; White has no satisfactory reply to this. Black threatens R x B, followed by B x Kt, and then mate in a few moves.

Chess-Nuts.

The match for the Championship of the United States, between Pillsbury and Showalter, begins this week. We will print some of the games in the next number.

Mr. Edward Hymes, the lawyer Chess expert, recently played ten games simultaneously against a strong team of the Brooklyn Chess-club. Mr. Hymes won nine games and lost one.

The New York *Evening Post* is authority for the statement that of the games with the Lopez opening in the Masters' Tournaments within the last decade, practically one third have been drawn, while, of the remainder, the wins are to the losses in the proportion of 11 to 6.

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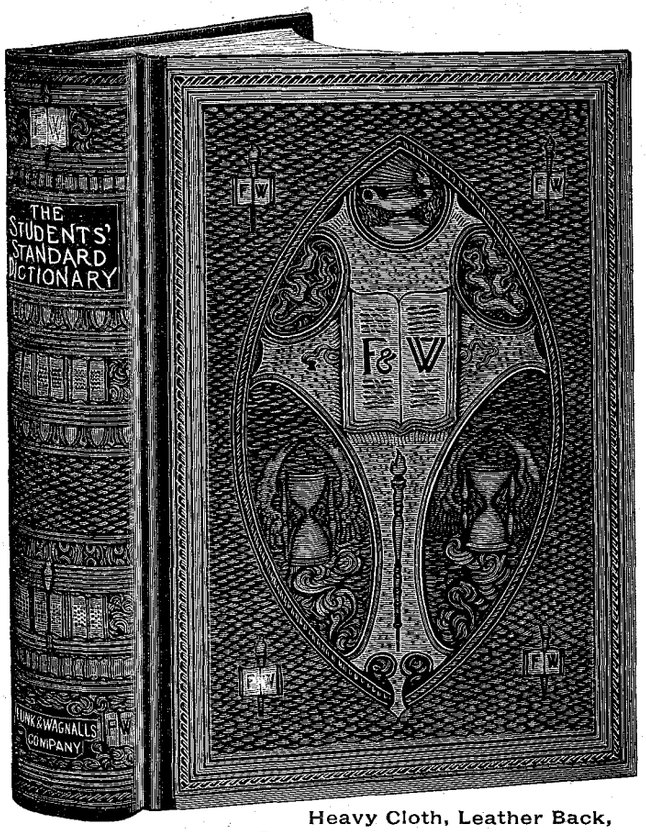

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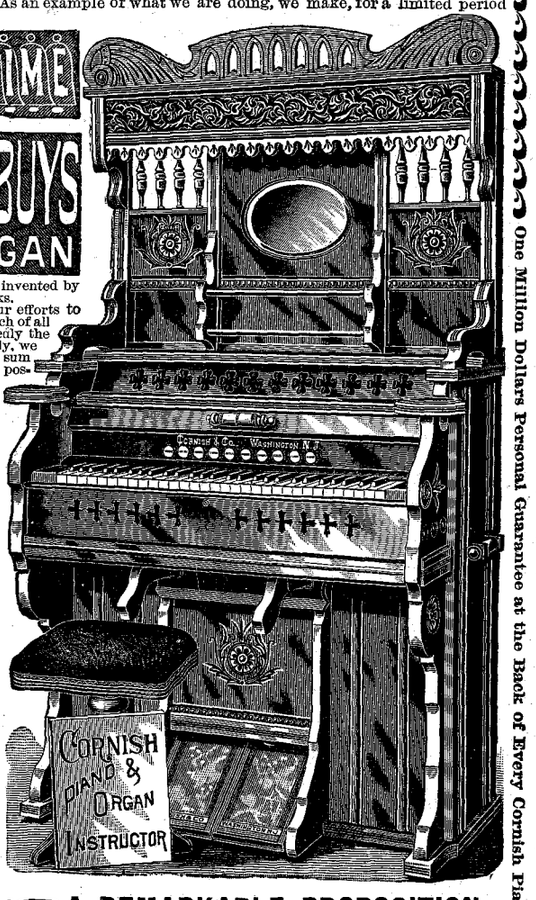

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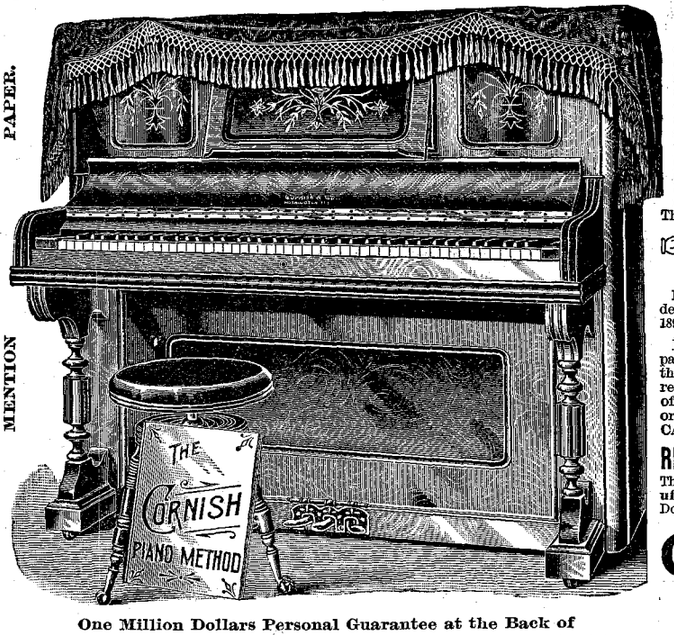

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